Malkin leads Pens

Evgeni Malkin scored his second hat trick in six days as the Pens beat the Rangers. **1B**

THE Valley INDEPENDENT

An Edition of the TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Valley Profiles

Michael Bielen is leaving his position as administrator and secretary-treasurer in Donora. **3A**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2008 RELEVANT, RELIABLE WWW.VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM

INSIDE TODAY

'American Profile'

Read about singer-actor Jim Nabors in "American Profile," a supplement to today's edition.

Fee debated

Monessen City Council is still at odds over how much to charge for a sewer line usage fee. **3A**

Drug in question

A trial has revealed that a Vytorin combination is no more effective than a lone ingredient. **7A**

Home sales down

Home sales in the region have dropped sharply. **5B**

SPORTS

Pitt tops Hoyas

DeJuan Blair ruled the middle as Pitt whipped Georgetown. **1B**

Warriors prevail

Elizabeth Forward trailed for much of the game, but pulled out a victory over Ringgold. **1B**

Monessen wins

Monessen ran away from Class AAA Steel Valley to remain undefeated. **1B**

DEATHS

- Dorothy Rose Gigliotti, 89, Monessen
- Helen Grcich Jones, 91, Bentleyville
- Bernice Nutting, 95, formerly of Charleroi
- Alberta "Betty" Marmie, 92, Carroll Township
- Cleo Valdiserri, 95, Sun City West, Ariz., formerly of North Belle Vernon

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WEATHER

Tonight
Snow 25°
Tomorrow
Partly sunny 38°

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Two sections, 18 pages

TOMORROW

Filmless technology now at Monongahela Valley Hospital is designed for patient convenience.

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Raise war rages on

Monessen Councilman Wayne Doptis wants to reopen the budget.

By STACY WOLFORD
Staff Writer
swolford@tribweb.com

MONESSEN – Two controversial management raises will be discussed again as a councilman looks to reopen the 2008 budget.

At the request of Councilman Wayne Doptis, a special meeting will be set to "readdress several line items" in the budget, including raises approved Dec. 19.

Doptis

During that meeting, Mayor Anthony Petaccia and former council members Mary Jo Smith and Dale Simpson approved $2,000 raises for city Clerk/Administrator Rosalie Nicksich and police Chief Mark Gibson.

Doptis and Councilman Jeff Gagatko opposed the raises.

The salary hikes angered the nonuniform employees represented by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees union.

The union sent a district liaison to council last month. A union official called the raises "irresponsible" in light of the wage freeze approved by its members and predicted a grievance would be filed.

The police officers, members of the Teamsters, will receive a 60-cent per hour raise this year – based on their contract. The deal expires at year's end.

At a Monday work session, Doptis said he wants to revisit the administrative raises. He appears to have the support of Gagatko and new Councilman Josh Retos.

"The only thing I have to say is that I sat here when we had those budgetary meetings, and I said there were other things I wanted to bring up," Doptis said. "But they got pushed back because I didn't have the votes."

Doptis said he has four additional budget "issues" to

(See RAISE, Page 2A)

BVA crossing guard on mend

A Washington Township man accused of running down Edger Jones faces a hearing.

By JENNIFER REEGER
For The Valley Independent
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Edger Jones ticked off the list of his injuries as if he were reading a grocery list.

His nose is broken. He has orbital fractures over his left eye. Doctors put 32 stitches in his forehead and 10 more in his left knee. His left shoulder was dislocated.

"Other than that ... ," Jones said, trying to keep his spirits up a little more than a week after a vehicle-pedestrian accident that he feels lucky to have survived.

While Jones, 60, a Belle Vernon Area School District crossing guard, recuperates from his injuries, the man accused of hitting him faces numerous charges.

Late last week, Robert E. Welch, 29, of 122 Nagy St., Washington Township, was arraigned on charges of aggravated assault, simple assault, reckless endangerment, reckless driving, speeding and accidents involving death or injury.

Washington Township police filed the charges as a result of the Jan. 3 incident.

Welch is accused of speeding through a school zone and striking Jones, who stops traffic on Perry Avenue to allow school buses to come in and out of Marion Elementary and Bellmar Middle schools.

Welch is free on bond. He faces a preliminary hearing in Belle Vernon Jan. 25 before Magisterial District Judge Jesse Cramer.

Police have said Welch was driving on Perry Avenue at about 45 mph the morning of the accident. The posted speed limit is 35 mph but is reduced to 15 mph in front of schools.

Welch told officers he tried to apply his brakes, but they didn't work.

He said he didn't see Jones until after the impact, police said.

Jones, who began working as a crossing guard two years ago as a way to keep busy during retirement, said he remembered seeing a car off in the distance, speeding up Perry Avenue.

"I had just let a bus out of the school grounds," Jones said.

"I had my stop sign up, and the next thing I know I'm looking at the tail rotor of a helicopter."

The helicopter took him to Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, where he spent the next three days.

He's recovering at home, unsure when or if he'll be able to return to his post.

"Whenever I lay down, the room feels like a carousel, and if I stand up, it does the same thing," he said.

Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

The owner of Auto Care Center in Donora has sued the borough over a ordinance that prohibits him from parking business-related cars on streets near his shop.

Businessman on offense in Donora parking battle

In a lawsuit, Auto Care Center owner Michael Gori claims an ordinance is unconstitutional.

By JEFF OLIVER
Staff Writer
joliver@tribweb.com

DONORA – A businessman who has been cited numerous times for violating a recently enacted ordinance has fired back.

Michael Gori, owner of Auto Care Center, 948 McKean Ave., Donora, filed a lawsuit against the borough claiming the ordinance that states it is illegal to park vehicles for private business gain on borough streets is "unconstitutional as it is overly broad in its scope."

Gori has been at odds with the borough over parking of rental vehicles on borough streets surrounding his business.

The borough enacted the ordinance last year after receiving numerous complaints from residents living near Gori's business. The residents claimed they did not have room to park their vehicles.

At the time, Mayor John Lignelli said he had been in the area on several occasions and found, at times, as many as 20 of Gori's vehicles parked there.

On Aug. 9, the borough enacted the ordinance which states, "No private business, profession or occupation shall be conducted or carried on using the public streets or roadways."

The ordinance went on to say no business shall have the right to store any vehicles and/or equipment for business use on public streets.

Gori is scheduled to appear Wednesday in Monongahela before Magisterial District Judge Mark Wilson for three recent citations indicating violations of the ordinance. Donora police issued the citations Dec. 12, 14 and 15.

In filing his lawsuit Jan. 4, Gori contended the ordinance, as it stands, "would prohibit all home occupations" and could also "deny commercial access to public right to way in the borough."

The suit claims the borough overstepped its boundaries by enacting the ordinance.

Gori contends the ordinance causes him to "suffer immediate and irreparable harm."

Lignelli said the borough stands behind the ordinance and is prepared to fight the lawsuit.

"He can say what he wants," Lignelli said of Gori. "But we have pictures of all his vehicles parked on the streets and we just received so many complaints from the residents.

"We intend to win this case. I am not worried one bit. We will handle the case whenever it comes up."

> "He can say what he wants. But we have pictures of all his vehicles parked on the streets and we just received so many complaints from the residents."
>
> MAYOR JOHN LIGNELLI

Lignelli added he just recently became aware of the suit and could not comment on it at great length because of possible litigation.

He did say that since the ordinance was enacted, parking on the street near the Auto Care Center has improved.

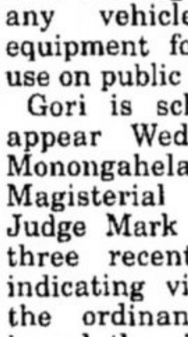
"But he still has a lot of junk around his property," Lignelli said of Gori.

Belle Vernon sewer project on schedule

Southwest Regional police will try to cut back on fuel consumption.

By JEFF PIKULSKY
Staff Writer
jpikulsky@tribweb.com

BELLE VERNON – Borough council expects to wrap up its sewage project in March – after a year of construction.



Bitonti

At a business meeting Monday, project manager Bill Johnson said the project is on schedule and largely complete.

The $1.9 million project involves the separation of stormwater and wastewater lines. The system will serve about 630 customers.

Councilman Rich Saxberg said the system will help alleviate flooding for a half dozen homes on Third Street, about 500 feet from the Monongahela River.

Saxberg said the homes often flooded when the old system overloaded because of high volumes of either stormwater or

(See SEWER, Page 2A)

VALLEY PEOPLE

Yesteryear

The fourth, fifth and sixth grades at Mineral School in South Huntingdon Township near Smithton are pictured here in 1943 with their teacher, Edna Nicholls, of Rostraver Township.

If you have a good oldtime photograph, send it to us at Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa., 15062.

Weather

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
High 38 Low 25	High 38 Low 22	High 25 Low 10	High 22 Low 5	High 20 Low 10

Reformers want integrity session

A spokesman for Ed Rendell said the governor isn't buying.

By BRAD BUMSTED
For The Valley Independent
bbumsted@tribweb.com

HARRISBURG – A wide array of government reform groups called for a special session on public integrity, but Gov. Ed Rendell, the only official who can call one, said it is not necessary.

"We now publicly call on Gov. (Ed) Rendell to do what he can by calling a special session on public integrity," said Tim Potts, co-founder of Democracy Rising PA.

Rendell should "encourage, provoke, and if necessary shame" legislators for failing to enact the highest integrity standards in the U.S.

The issues at such a legislative session could include banning post-election or "lame duck" sessions, requiring an independent forensic audit of legislative leadership accounts and WAMs (Walking Around Money), banning gifts from lobbyists to legislators and calling a constitutional convention for deeper structural change, reformers said.

The groups ranged from the League of Women Voters, Rock the Capital and PA Clean Sweep to the conservative Commonwealth Foundation.

But Chuck Ardo, Rendell's spokesman, suggested Rendell wasn't buying.

"We believe every public official should serve with integrity every single day," he said.

"They all take an oath promising to do so and most adhere to that standard. As such, a special session is unnecessary."

Rendell called a special session on energy independence last fall to focus attention on that issue. The major bills introduced in that session haven't yet been approved.

Other reform priorities include:

- Providing a monthly online accounting of lawmakers' perks.
- Preventing campaign fundraisers in Harrisburg when the legislature is in session.
- Requiring 72 hours between final amendment and final passage of a bill.

Read Valley Business each Wednesday

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Push on to kill property tax

House Democrats are expected to consider tax reduction bills on Wednesday.

By BRAD BUMSTED
For The Valley Independent
bbumsted@tribweb.com

HARRISBURG – Taxpayer groups are urging a vote on legislation to eliminate school property taxes by broadening the state sales tax and increasing the state income tax.

House Democrats are expected on Wednesday to consider bills to reduce property taxes through tax shifting, but the Pennsylvania Coalition of Taxpayer Associations wants the elimination bill – House Bill 1275 by Republican Rep. Samuel Rohrer of Berks County – to be brought up for a vote.

Rohrer's bill is not on track for a full House vote. House Democratic leaders plan to bring up bills by House Majority Leader Bill DeWeese, D-Waynesburg, and Democratic Rep. David Levdansky, of Forward Township.

Those bills would cut property taxes by $1.5 billion by increasing the sales tax from 6 percent to 6.5 percent, and by hiking the income tax from 3.07 percent to 3.29 percent.

Levdansky said he was unable to predict the resulting average decrease in property taxes statewide. He predicted decreases of up to 50 percent in each school district for homes and farms.

"We are absolutely not going to let up" until property tax reduction is enacted, DeWeese vowed.

Critics said Levdansky's bill does not attempt to curb school costs.

"They are not even controlling costs. It makes you wonder what their motivation is," said Stephen Miskin, a spokesman for House Republicans.

DeWeese said some Republican amendments would be considered.

Rohrer's plan to eliminate property taxes would keep the state sales tax at 6 percent but extend the tax to services ranging from legal work and accounting to landscaping and plumbing, said David Baldinger of Reading, spokesman for the taxpayers coalition.

Rohrer's bill would increase the state income tax to 3.92 percent, but would abolish local "nuisance" taxes, including the earned income tax of 0.5 percent, Baldinger said.

The bill would include measures to control school spending, Baldinger said. School districts would be limited to spending increases no higher than the Consumer Price Index.

If necessary, Rohrer said, he will offer his bill as an amendment on the House floor.

"One way or another, we are going to deal with HB 1275," he said.

Among 44 co-sponsors, eight are Democrats. Two Western Pennsylvania Democrats backing the bill are Rep. Harry Readshaw of Carrick and Rep. Tim Mahoney of Uniontown.

Drug traffickers outwitting enforcers

The number of cocaine-related seizures and disruptions declined last year.

By The Associated Press

MIAMI – U.S.-directed seizures and disruptions of cocaine shipments from Latin America dropped sharply in 2007 from the year before, reflecting in part a successful shift in tactics by drug traffickers to avoid detection at sea, senior American officials disclosed Monday in releasing new figures.

Navy Adm. Jim Stavridis, commander of U.S. Southern Command, which is responsible for U.S. military operations in the region, said seizures fell from 262 metric tons in 2006 to about 210 tons last year.

"It's difficult to say why that is," he said in an interview with three reporters who visited his headquarters with Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who expressed concern at the shift.

The 2007 figure was the lowest since 2003, other officials said. Last year's drop broke a string of yearly increases in cocaine seizures and disruptions dating to the late 1990s. The numbers include estimates of cocaine thrown overboard or scuttled with vessels – a common response by smugglers who are detected at sea. The biggest dropoff last year was in seizures at sea, which fell from nearly 160 metric tons in 2006 to about 100 metric tons last year, according to the figures, which are preliminary but were described by officials as reliable estimates.

"In any given contest of offense and defense you've got to adjust your tactics," Stavridis said, alluding to a conclusion reached by Mullen and others that the drug cartels are nimbler than the U.S. government.

Sewer (FROM PAGE ONE)

sewage.

In an unrelated matter, Mayor James Bitonti said the Southwest Regional Police Department has been trying to conserve fuel because it is running about 20 percent over its gas budget.

Bitonti, a member of the police department board, said Southwest Regional has already exhausted its gas allotment for the month, roughly $500.

The mayor said high gas prices are to blame.

The department has budgeted $6,000 for the year, an amount Bitonti predicted will not be enough.

Bitonti said the officers are being asked to run their vehicles only when necessary.

He said no patrol shifts have been cut.

Raise (FROM PAGE ONE)

discuss.

The mayor opposed the plan.

"I'm not in favor of reopening the budget," Petaccia said. "I think a lot of hard work went into the budget."

New Councilman John Harhai said the budget is "fine."

Solicitor Mark Shire said council has until Feb. 15 to change the budget, advertise changes and give the public 10 days to review an amended plan.

In other controversial matters, Doptis wants to investigate the Mon Valley Health and Welfare Authority and the Mon Valley Community Health Center. The authority manages and maintains the health center, located in the city's Eastgate section.

Doptis said he is concerned authority employees are being paid more than is being generated by rent at the facility. The center's longtime main tenant, Southwestern Human Services Inc., moved out last summer after a bid to buy the health center from the city failed.

Doptis said council must explore employee salaries and benefits in light of vacancies at the health center.

Doptis said he has requested financial information from the authority.

"They sent a letter back saying they were 'puzzled' at our request," Doptis said. "It's up to us to police our authorities, and I feel we're getting bled down the drain."

Retos agreed with Doptis.

"If you're outgoing money is more than you're incoming money, how is that profitable?" Retos said.

Gagatko suggested council obtain concrete information.

"I don't think we should speculate when we don't have their financial information," Gagatko said.

Harhai said the authority is the only panel in the city to donate money for council use.

"They're the only profitable organization in the city," Harhai said.

Harhai questioned what the city has done to help the authority, noting the real estate firm Grubb & Ellis has been hired to attract tenants.

The mayor said he has written letters to local and state leaders about the failed attempt to get the Social Security office to relocate to the health center.

"I've talked to someone about moving a potential business there and the chamber's been looking, too," the mayor said. "We're all trying."

Council will meet 7 p.m. Wednesday for its public meeting

Ceraso's crash will cost county $155 for repairs

The commissioner was returning from a private party when his county-owned car hit two deer.

By RICH CHOLODOFSKY
For The Valley Independent
rcholodofsky@tribweb.com

Although Westmoreland County Commissioner Tom Ceraso reported his county-owned car collided with two moving deer earlier this month, the bill for county taxpayers will be only $155, officials said.

Ceraso said Monday he will not be picking up the $155 tab to fix the car, which was damaged when he hit the animals while heading home from a party.

"The county will pay it," he said.

County officials yesterday learned the bill to replace a broken headlight on Ceraso's 2004 Chevy Impala was $155. On his insurance form, Ceraso reported "front-end damage."

The county took no photographs of the car because the damage was minor, according to Human Resources Deputy Director Debbie Waller. That office said last week it would field all questions about the collision.

Waller said the damage had been repaired. She said there is no requirement that Ceraso pay to fix the car, even though the crash occurred while the vehicle was used for personal business and not related to his county job.

Ceraso said he hit two of three deer about 11:30 p.m. Jan. 5 on Route 56 near New Kensington. He was driving home from a party he attended in Vandergrift to watch the Steelers playoff game.

In an interview last week, he said he used his county car that night because his personal vehicle, a Jeep, was being repaired.

Ceraso is the only county commissioner who drives a county-owned car. County policy, approved and unchanged since 1988, allows elected officials to use their taxpayer-funded car for "minimal" personal business.

Ceraso uses the car to commute to work and to drive to meetings and events outside the courthouse. Taxpayers foot the bill to fill Ceraso's car with gasoline.

Commissioners Tom Balya and Kim Ward drive their own cars and do not accept mileage reimbursements from the county.

Other county employees are prohibited from driving their take-home county vehicles for personal use. The use of the cars is restricted to business purposes and commuting to and from the job.

Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

Michael Bielen, who has been Donora's borough administrator since the fall of 2002, will leave the borough later this month to accept a position with the state Fish and Boat Commission in Harrisburg.

Donora officials reluctantly bid farewell to adminiatrator

By JEFF OLIVER
Staff Writer
joliver@tribweb.com

pro

A weekly look at one of our neighbors

DONORA - The community will bid farewell to a valued employee soon when Borough Administrator Michael Bielen leaves for a new job opportunity.

Bielen, 30, has been the borough's administrator since Sept. 2, 2002, when he took over for Robert Paraschak. He also served as the borough's secretary and treasurer.

Bielen's final day of employment with the borough will be Jan. 25.

"He will be so hard to replace," said Mayor John Lignelli of Bielen. "Since he has been here, he has developed into a top-notch administrator.

"He is qualified to work for any municipality in the state. That's how talented he is and that's how much we think of him."

Bielen, who said the Donora post was his first full-time job out of college, has accepted a job offer from the state Fish and Boat Commission in Harrisburg.

"When he came here, he didn't have any experience, but he worked his tail off to get to where he is today," Lignelli said. "He has successfully learned every phase of the operation in Donora."

At last week's meeting of borough council, when the move came to hire Bielen's replacement, Brian Bell, of Washington, members of council took turns saying how sorry they were to lose their administrator.

Council President Dr. Karen Polkabla said the move to hire Bell was a "sad motion" because it meant that Bielen was leaving.

"You will be sorely missed," Polkabla told Bielen.

Lignelli brought some humor to the somber moment when he said, "Don't forget that your success started here in Donora."

Bielen, a native of McAdoo, which is a small community near Hazelton, seemed almost embarrassed by the praise he received from the mayor, as well as members of council.

"It was a great learning experience that I can take with me in my other endeavors," Bielen said. "I appreciated the opportunity this borough gave me and I hope I exceeded their expectations."

Bielen said he has had no time to reflect on the personal highlights of his tenure with the community because of the bustle of the job.

"I've been so busy trying to get so much work done before I am finished that I haven't had time to reflect," he said. "I'm sure, at some point down the road, I will do that.

"Ultimately, when you leave a community, what you miss most are the employees and the residents. They made me feel welcome here."

Bell will begin his duties with the borough Jan. 21. He was hired at an annual salary of $40,000.

Not only will he serve as administrator, secretary and treasurer of the borough, but Bell also will serve as chief administrator of the borough's two employee pension funds.

Monessen officials remain polarized on sewer line fee

Mayor Petaccia is pushing for a $20 per year fee, but some councilman want a higher levy.

By STACY WOLFORD
Staff Writer
swolford@tribweb.com

MONESSEN - City council is still at odds over how much to charge for a sewer line usage fee.

During a Monday night work session, Mayor Anthony Petaccia proposed charging $5 per quarter, which would total $20 per year, for the line usage fees.

Monessen and Donora leaders have been working with the Mon Valley Sewage Authority to come up with a fee to put into a fund to pay for repairs on the century-old sewage lines.

The authority - which treats the sewage - would add the fee to the quarterly bills sent to customers. Each municipality would have its own account for the fees.

The communities own the sewer lines and are responsible for their repairs and maintenance.

Donora council voted last week to charge customers $5 per quarter, or $20 per year for the line usage fees.

Petaccia believes Monessen should follow suit, arguing that anything higher would be a burden on taxpayers and senior citizens.

"I think $20 is good to start out with and, if we need to raise it, we can take a look at it again next year," the mayor said.

But Councilmen Jeff Gagatko and Wayne Doptis think the fee should be higher due to the deteriorating condition of the aging sewer system.

Councilman John Harbai said he also thinks having more money in an account would be advantageous in the event major repairs are needed.

Councilman Josh Retos suggested the two sides meet in the middle and compromise on the fee.

Petaccia said he would contact the sewage authority to see if it could impose two different sets of fees for Monessen and Donora sewage customers.

If so, that would appear to open the door to the kind of compromise approach recommended by Retos.

In other business, the mayor announced the city is seeking letters of interest from residents interested in filling a vacant spot on the planning commission. Letters should be sent to City Hall.

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RECORDS

DEATH NOTICES

GIGLIOTTI — Dorothy R. Gigliotti, 89, of Monessen, on Monday, Jan. 14. Dalfonso-Billick Funeral Home Inc., Monessen.*

JONES — Helen (Grcich) Jones, 91, of Bentleyville, on Sunday, Jan. 13. Greenlee Funeral Home, Bentleyville.*

MARMIE — Alberta Marmie, 92, of Carroll Township, on Sunday, Jan. 13. Schrock-Hogan Funeral Home and Cremation Services Inc., Charleroi.*

NUTTING — Bernice Nutting, formerly of Charleroi, on Tuesday, Jan. 15. Carl J. Spallino Funeral Home, Charleroi.

VALDISERRI — Cleo Valdiserri, 95, of Sun City West, Ariz., formerly of North Belle Vernon, on Friday, Jan. 11. Leonard J. Parzynski Funeral Home, Belle Vernon.*

PREVIOUS DEATHS:
COULSON, Evelyn*
DISCLAFANI, Helen*
GAINER, Herbert R.*
SASKO, Betty L.*
• See death notice

Evelyn Coulson
Bentleyville

Evelyn Debnar Coulson, 83, of Bentleyville, died Sunday, Jan. 13, 2008, in The Washington Hospital, Washington, Pa. She was born Aug. 11, 1924, in Fallowfield Township, a daughter of the late Earl and Anna Clutter Wilson. Mrs. Coulson was a member of Grace United Methodist Church in Coal Center. She retired from Corning Glass Works, Charleroi plant. Surviving is her son and daughter-in-law, Daniel Earl and Sarah Debnar, and her daughter and son-in-law, Laura (Debnar) and David Gilbert, all of Fallowfield Township; two sisters, Thelma Encompara, of Speers Hill (Charleroi), and Martha Bayne, of Washington; and two grandchildren, Kate and Andy Debnar. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her first husband, Andrew Debnar, and her second husband, Steve Coulson. Friends will be received Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. in the SCHROCK-HOGAN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES INC., (www.schrock-hogan.com), 226 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, Jan. 16, at 11 a.m. in Grace United Methodist Church, Coal Center, with John K. Smith and Randy Landman, pastors, officiating. Family and friends attending the funeral service are asked to go directly to the church. Interment will follow in Maple Creek Cemetery.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Helen Disclafani
Cary, N.C.
Formerly of North Charleroi

Helen Martha Gallo Disclafani, 89, of Cary, N.C., formerly of North Charleroi, died Saturday, Jan. 12, 2008, in Wake Medical, Raleigh, N.C., after a brief illness. She was born Nov. 29, 1918, in Charleroi, a daughter of the late John A. and Josephine Sakala Gallo. She was a member of Mary, Mother of the Church Parish in Charleroi. Helen moved to North Carolina in 2004 to be near her family. As a young woman, she was a bank employee and later worked in retail. She will be deeply missed by her son and daughter-in-law, Philip and Cathee Bindi Disclafani, of Cary; three sisters, Ethel Davies, Zora Frye and Viera Blattner, all of Pittsburgh; three grandsons, Philip Jr., Timothy and Anthony and wife, Lori, and two great-grandsons, Tanner and Parker, all of North Carolina; her brother-in-law, Sam Disclafani and wife, Rose, of Maryland; and many nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her loving husband, Philip Disclafani; and two sisters, Margaret Kubancek and Olga Gallo. Friends will be received at the CARL J. SPALLINO FUNERAL HOME, 819 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi, on Tuesday from 2 to 5 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Wednesday, Jan. 16, at 10:30 a.m. in Mary, Mother of the Church, followed by interment in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Carroll Township.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Herbert R. Gainer
Roscoe

Herbert R. "Wick" Gainer, 73, of Roscoe, died Saturday, Jan. 12, 2008, in UPMC Shadyside Hospital, Pittsburgh, after a lengthy illness. He was born July 5, 1934, in Elco, the son of the late Herbert M. and Margaret Wehousie Gainer. He retired after many years as the maintenance supervisor for the California Area School District, where he was a past officer of the SEIU. He was a social member of Roscoe American Legion Post No. 801, the Legion Rum Club, the Dartball League, and he was an avid fisherman. Survivors include one sister, Janet Bitonti Ferretti and husband, John; a nephew, John Bitonti and wife, Susan; great-nieces, Gia and Marissa Bitonti; and his best friend, Penny, all of Roscoe. Friends will be received in the ED MELENYZER FUNERAL HOMES INC., of Roscoe, from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday and 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday. A funeral service will be Thursday, Jan. 17, at 11 a.m. in the funeral home with Pastor Randy Landerman of Grace United Methodist Church officiating. Interment will follow in Howe Cemetery. For those unable to attend, on-line condolences will be accepted for the family at www.melenyzerfuneralhomes.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Dorothy R. Gigliotti
Monessen

Dorothy Rose Gigliotti, 89, of Monessen, died Monday, Jan. 14, 2008. She was born in Milwaukee, Wis., on Sept. 12, 1918, the daughter of the late Frank F. and Frances A. Miller Palm. She had been a resident of Monessen for the past 46 years and a member of Epiphany of Our Lord Roman Catholic Church. Mrs. Gigliotti also was a member of the former St. Cajetan Christian Mothers and the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Louis Gigliotti; two brothers-in-law, Angelo Gigliotti and wife, Angeline, and Frank Gigliotti and wife, Mary, and a sister-in-law, Saveria Gigliotti, all of Monessen; 13 nieces and nephews, Louis Gigliotti and wife, Nancy, and Cathy Carroto and husband, Greg, all of Monessen, Anthony Gigliotti and wife, Sharon, of West Palm Beach, Fla., Gloria Folino and husband, Nick, of Pittsburgh, Michael Gigliotti and wife, Janice, of Rostraver Township, Joseph Gigliotti and wife, Cindy, of Monessen, Frank Gigliotti and wife, Kathy, of Carroll Township, the Rev. Vincent Gigliotti, of Brownsville, Ronald Gigliotti, of Pittsburgh, Mary Kapty and husband, Robert, of Monessen, Fred Gigliotti and wife, Carm, of Greensburg, Anna Jo Noviello and husband, Robert, of Greensburg, and Lisa Krempasky and husband, John, of Monongahela; and 26 great-nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers-in-law, Antonio Gigliotti and Frederick Gigliotti and wife, Sarah. Friends will be received Tuesday from 1 to 3 and 6 to 8 p.m. in the DALFONSO-BILLICK FUNERAL HOME INC. and CREMATION SERIVES, 441 Reed Ave., Monessen (724-684-8750). Services will be held Wednesday, Jan. 16, beginning with a 12:30 p.m. blessing in the funeral home, followed by a 1 p.m. Funeral Mass in Epiphany of Our Lord R.C. Church. Interment will follow in the Grandview Cemetery Mausoleum, Monessen. Condolences accepted for the family at www.dalfonso-billick.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Helen Grcich Jones
Bentleyville

Helen Grcich Jones, 91, of Bentleyville, died Sunday, Jan. 13, 2008, in Consulate Health Care, Canonsburg. She was born Oct. 5, 1916, in New Castle, a daughter of the late John and Mary Galowska Grcich. Mrs. Jones had been a secretary for the Holland Furnace Company in Charleroi and also worked at Charland Sportswear, Clover Farms Grocery Store and Messler's Dairy Bar. She enjoyed playing bingo and cards. On Feb. 15, 1936, she married Joseph "Babe" Jones, who died Jan. 15, 2003. Surviving are three sons, Ronald W. (Cindy) Jones, of Canonsburg, Gerald Jones, of Bentleyville, and Barry L. (Carleen) Jones, of Ellsworth; two sisters, Anne Ball, of Roscoe, and Pauline Pallone, of Indiana, Pa.; eight grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. Deceased, in addition to her husband and parents, are two brothers, Nick and Tony Grcich; and one sister, Sophie Minjock. Friends will be received from 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday in the GREENLEE FUNERAL HOME, 619 Main St., Bentleyville, where funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 17, with Tunch Ilkin officiating. Entombment will follow in Mon Valley Memorial Park, Donora. An on-line guest book and personal condolences may be accessed at www.GreenleeFuneralHome.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Alberta Marmie
Carroll Township

Alberta "Betty" Marmie, 92, of Carroll Township, died Sunday, Jan. 13, 2008, in Thorpe's Personal Care Home, where she resided for the past four years. She was born July 21, 1915, in Brownsville, a daughter of the late Ross Vona and Florence Bonavita Rozzi. Mrs. Marmie was an avid card game player at "500", Rum and three-hand Pinochle. She liked to make her own bread and pasta dishes. Surviving are two sons, Henry E. Marmie Jr. and wife, Nancy, of Mapleview (Charleroi), and William P. Marmie, of Speers Hill (Charleroi); one brother, Ralph Rozzi, of Charleroi; one sister, Dolores Sciore, of Fayette City; seven grandchildren, Betsy Marmie Sedney, Nancy Marmie Hamilton, Tim Marmie, Amy Marmie Krug, William P. Marmie II, Robert Marmie and William John Parks; 14 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Mrs. Marmie was preceded in death in 2002 by her husband, Henry E. Marmie Sr., to whom she was married for 72 years; two brothers, Russell Vona and Lou Rozzi; three sisters, Virginia Mancuso, Marie Snowden and Wilma Rozzi Kolar. Friends will be received Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. in the SCHROCK-HOGAN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES INC., (www.schrock-hogan.com), where funeral services will be held Thursday, Jan. 17, at 11 a.m. Interment will be in Mon Valley Memorial Park, Donora.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Betty L. Sasko
Donora

Betty L. Sasko, 77, of Donora, died suddenly on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2008, in Mon Valley Hospital. Mrs. Sasko was born in North Charleroi on Dec. 26, 1930, a daughter of the late Joseph and Catherine Raso Villella. She was employed as a shoe saleswoman in various shoe stores throughout the Mon Valley. Mrs. Sasko was a member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Charleroi and a graduate of Donora High School Class of 1948. She enjoyed her weekly card club with her sister Jane and several other friends. Mrs. Sasko also was a frequent walker at Wal-Mart. She was preceded in death by her husband, Andrew F. "Stu" Sasko, in 1993. Survivors include her children, Linda Walters, of Donora, Drew Sasko and Catherine, of Summerville, S.C., and Karen (Jay) Anthony, of Belle Vernon; seven grandchildren, Aaron (Amy) Walters, Melissa (Joe) Whaley, Stephen (Carrie) Walters, Brooke Anthony and Brennan (Beth) Anthony, and Paige and Spencer Sasko; eight great-grandchildren, Taylor, Tyler and Nolan Walters, Nicholas, Abbigale, Aidyn, and Zacharey Whaley, and Jadyn Garbert; one sister, Mrs. Joseph (Jane) Barna, of Donora; one brother, Thomas Villella, of Charleroi; numerous nieces and nephews; and her special friend, Jim Jackson, of Belle Vernon. Friends will be received Monday from 7 to 9 p.m. and Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the JAMES A. RABE FUNERAL HOME INC., 701 Thompson Ave., Donora (724-379-9020), where prayers will be said Wednesday, Jan. 16, at 10:15 a.m., followed by a funeral service at 11 a.m. in St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Charleroi with the Rev. William Ilgenfritz, rector, assisted by the Rev. Bob Coval, as celebrants. Interment will follow in Mon Valley Memorial Park, Donora. Family and friends may view the obituary and offer on-line condolences at www.rabefuneralhome.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Cleo Valdiserri
Sun City West, Ariz.
Formerly of North Belle Vernon

Cleo Valdiserri, 95, of Sun City West, Ariz., formerly of North Belle Vernon, died Friday, Jan. 11, 2008, at 10:15 p.m. in Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital in Arizona. Born May 30, 1912, in Belle Vernon, he was the son of the late John and Maggie Meacci Valdiserri. A current resident of Sun City West, Mr. Valdiserri was a member of St. Sebastian Roman Catholic Church in Belle Vernon. He was a retired steward from Nemacolin County Club, a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, a life member of the North Belle Vernon Fire Department and Belle Vernon American Legion Post No. 659. Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law, Carl and Virginia Valdiserri, of Northville, Mich., and Wayne and Linda Valdiserri, of Sun City West; one sister, Eleanor Negalman, of Pekin, Ill.; two grandsons, Douglas and Vincent Valdiserri, both of Belle Vernon; and four great-grandchildren, Tiffany, Eric, Derick and Josh Valdiserri. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lillian Piere Valdiserri, on June 8, 2000; and one brother, Leo Valdiserri. Visitation will be held Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the LEONARD J. PARZYNSKI FUNERAL HOME, family owned and operated, 626 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon (724-929-6183). Services will be held Thursday, Jan. 17, at 10 a.m. in the funeral home, followed by interment in Belle Vernon Cemetery. The North Belle Vernon Fire Department will conduct services Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the funeral home. Condolences accepted for the family at the funeral home Web site, www.parzynskifuneralhome.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

CORRECTIONS/ CLARIFICATIONS

Hoagie sale correction

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, St. Nicholas Drive, Donora, will conduct an advance-order only Super Bowl Hoagie Sale Feb. 2. To order, call (724) 379-6478 or (724) 483-7614 by Jan. 27. Pickups will be 11 a.m. to noon Feb. 2. An incorrect pickup date was submitted for a previous Valley Grapevine item.

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In Memory Of
Nicholas Vaccaro

In loving memory of our beloved son, brother and uncle, Nicholas Vaccaro, who passed away 15 years ago today, January 15, 1993.
Today recalls sad memories of our dear one gone to rest, and the ones who think of you today are the ones who love you best.
Sadly missed and loved by Mother & Father, Brothers, Sister & Families

VALLEY GRAPEVINE

Joe Walker Chapter to meet

The Mon Valley/Joe Walker Chapter of the Air Force Association will hold its monthly dinner meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday at CJ's Restaurant in Fayette City. For information, call Dave DuBarr at (724) 489-0408 or Karen Hartman at (724) 483-5257.

Stockdale Oldies dance sold out

The Stockdale All Oldies 50th Anniversary Dance set for Feb. 16 at the Stockdale Fire Hall is sold out.

Stockdale Fire Chief Al Marcy said planners received an "overwhelming response" for the event, which will celebrate the first dance at the fire hall staged 50 years ago.

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POLICE LOG

Monongahela

■ James Warren told police someone threw eggs a this 463 Second Ave., New Eagle, residence sometime Thursday.

■ Someone kicked the rear door at Hitch's Hut, 225 W. Main St., Monongahela, 4:29 a.m. Wednesday, but no apparent entry was made, police reported.

■ Kelly Ann Smith told police the keys to her vehicle were stolen while the car was parked in the lot near Hitch's Hut 3:28 a.m. Wednesday.

■ Jacqueline Newman, 45, of 1892 Route 2023, Monongahela, was charged with possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance, possession of a controlled or counterfeit substance and DUI, driving on the right side of the roadway and turning movements and required signals, in connection with an alleged incident Dec. 9 at First and Railroad streets, policed reported.

■ John Davies, 52, of 615 West Main St., Apt 1C, Monongahela, was charged with public intoxication at McDonalds, 9:38 a.m. Friday, police reported.

■ Police reported that around 3:30 a.m. Friday several vehicles were entered in the Mounds area. The suspects apparently were looking for money or loose change. Police reminded residents to lock their vehicles as most of those entered were unlocked.

Monessen

■ Matthew Keith, 23, of 314 Fist St., Monessen, was arrested on bench warrant out of Westmoreland County, 8:50 p.m. Friday in the 800 block of Schoonmaker Avenue, police reported.

■ Nichole Deak, 25, of 208 South Eighth St., West Newton, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and theft, 6:30 p.m. Saturday on McMahon Avenue, police said.

State police, Belle Vernon

■ Michael Hartley, 19, of California, was charged with harassment after he allegedly repeatedly called a 15-year-old female juvenile sometime from 2 to 6 p.m. Jan. 10 and harassed her on the phone, police said.

■ David Woods, no age given, of Monessen, was charged with criminal trespass 10:05 p.m. Jan. 10 after going to Hunters Ridge in Redstone Township when he was not licensed or privileged to do so, police said.

■ Police are investigating the theft of a flatbed tow truck from Red's Auto Sales in Bentleyville, which was reported 10:30 p.m. Jan. 13. The vehicle was entered through the passenger door and the suspect was assisted by a person in a purple/gray Pontiac GTO with no registration plate attached. The stolen vehicle was later recovered on Interstate 70 eastbound ramp of Exit 32B, police said.

■ Charles Hillen, no age given, of Perryopolis, reported that during the period of Nov. 28, 2007, and Jan. 11, 2008, he was defrauded of $2,200 from a known person through bad checks.

State police, Greensburg

■ Police are investigating the theft of a Uniset gun from JDL Enterprise, 38 Whyel Road, Sewickley Township, West Newton, which was taken during the period of Dec. 21, 2007, and Jan. 2, 2008.

■ Police are investigating an attempted break-in at The Link Bar, 91 Wendel Road, Sewickley Township, which took place sometime Jan. 4-8 when someone damaged a game room door in a failed attempt to gain entry.

NEWS

TODAY IN HISTORY

January 15

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 15, the 15th day of 2008. There are 351 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight:
On Jan. 15, 1929, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was born in Atlanta.

On this date:

■ In 1559, England's Queen Elizabeth I was crowned in Westminster Abbey.

■ In 1777, the people of New Connecticut declared their independence. (The tiny republic later became the state of Vermont.)

■ In 1844, the University of Notre Dame received its charter from the state of Indiana.

■ In 1908, 100 years ago, nuclear physicist Edward Teller was born in Budapest, Austria-Hungary.

■ In 1942, Jawaharlal Nehru was named to succeed Mohandas K. Gandhi as head of India's Congress Party.

■ In 1947, the mutilated remains of Elizabeth Short, the 22-year-old aspiring actress now known as the "Black Dahlia," were found in a vacant Los Angeles lot.

■ In 1967, the Green Bay Packers of the National Football League defeated the Kansas City Chiefs of the American Football League 35-10 in the first AFL-NFL World Championship Game, retroactively known as Super Bowl I.

■ In 1973, President Nixon announced the suspension of all U.S. offensive action in North Vietnam, citing progress in peace negotiations.

■ In 1978, two students at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Lisa Levy and Margaret Bowman, were murdered in their sorority house. (Ted Bundy was later convicted of the crime, and executed.)

■ **Ten years ago**: Henry Cisneros' ex-mistress, Linda Medlar Jones, pleaded to misleading federal authorities investigating the former U.S. housing secretary's payment of alleged hush money to her. (Jones served nearly 18 months in prison; she was later pardoned by President Clinton.) Labor Secretary Alexis Herman denied allegations that she had sold her influence in the White House. (Herman was cleared in 2000 by Independent Counsel Ralph I. Lancaster.)

■ **Five years ago**: White House budget director Mitchell Daniels predicted federal deficits would balloon to the $200- to $300 billion range over the next two years. Mickey Mouse and The Walt Disney Co. scored a big victory as the Supreme Court upheld longer copyright protections for cartoon characters, songs, books and other creations worth billions of dollars.

■ **One year ago**: The Iraqi government hanged two of Saddam Hussein's henchmen, including a half-brother (Barzan Ibrahim) who was accidentally decapitated by the noose. "Babel" won best movie drama and "Dreamgirls" was named best musical or comedy at the Golden Globes; "Grey's Anatomy" was named best TV drama series and "Ugly Betty" best TV comedy.

Associated Press

In this photo released by the Iraqi Government, Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, right, and U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, left, talk today during their meeting in Baghdad. The man in the center is not identified.

Rice holds more talks with Iraqi prime minister

U.S. Secretary of State encourages more benchmark laws.

By HAMZA HENDAWI
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD (AP) — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice made a surprise visit today to Baghdad, where Iraqi officials said she congratulated the premier on the passage of the so-called de-Baathification legislation and encouraged him to speed along other benchmark laws.

Rice flew from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where she was accompanying President Bush on a tour of the Middle East. Her trip was announced in the Saudi capital as Bush was holding talks with Saudi officials.

"President Bush and Secretary Rice decided this would be a good opportunity for the secretary to go to Baghdad to meet with Iraqi officials to build on progress made and to encourage additional political reconciliation and legislative action," National Security Council spokesman Gordon Johndroe said.

He said Rice, who began talks with Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in his office, would return to Riyadh tonight.

Ali al-Dabbagh, al-Maliki's spokesman, said Rice and the prime minister met for about 45 minutes, of which 30 minutes were one-on-one.

He said she briefed him on Bush's trip and passed along Bush's congratulations on the passage of legislation reinstating thousands of former supporters of Saddam Hussein's now-dissolved Baath party to government jobs.

The de-Baathification law is one of 18 steps which the United States considered benchmarks to promoting reconciliation among the country's Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds.

A senior aide to al-Maliki said Rice also encouraged the prime minister to promote the progress of the other benchmark legislation, including provincial elections, constitutional amendments and a law to share the country's oil and gas resources among the different sects.

On Saturday, Bush had commended Iraq's parliament for the de-Baathification legislation.

"It's an important step toward reconciliation," Bush said then, after more than a year of prodding by the U.S. for action on the law. "It's an important sign that the leaders of that country understand that they must work together to meet the aspirations of the Iraqi people."

At the same time, Bush said more progress was needed.

Saudi oil minister: Kingdom will raise production only if market justifies it

Bush warned soaring oil prices could cause economic slowdown in U.S.

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Saudi Arabia will raise oil production only when the market justifies it, the kingdom's oil minister said today, in response to President Bush's request that OPEC nations increase output to reduce world oil prices.

"Our interest is to keep oil supplies matching demand with minimum volatility in the oil market," Oil Minister Ali Naimi told reporters. "We will raise production when the market justifies it. This is our policy."

Naimi said inventory levels appear to be "normal," adding, "we want the inventories to be healthful, but we don't want it to be extremely high or extremely low."

Earlier today in Riyadh, Bush warned that soaring oil prices could cause an economic slowdown in the U.S.

"High energy prices can damage consuming economies," the president told a small group of reporters traveling with him in the Mideast.

Saudi Arabia holds the world's largest supply of oil. Bush said U.S. consumers are feeling the pain of rising oil prices, which topped $100 a barrel this month.

"When consumers have less purchasing power, it could cause the economy to slow down," Bush said. "I hope OPEC nations put more supply on the market," he added. "It would be helpful."

'PENNSYLVANIA CASH 5'

Three players hit 'Cash 5' jackpot

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Three players matched all five winning numbers drawn in Monday's "Pennsylvania Cash 5" game and will each receive $103,974.50.

Lottery officials said 232 players matched four numbers and won $247.50 each; 7,695 players matched three numbers and won $8 each; and 76,147 players matched two numbers and won $1 each.

THE WORLD BRIEFLY

3,200 Marines to deploy to Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Military officials said that about 3,200 Marines are being told to prepare to go to Afghanistan — a move that will boost combat troop levels in time for an expected Taliban offensive this spring.

Once complete, the deployment would increase U.S. forces in Afghanistan to as much as 30,000, the highest level since the 2001 invasion after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The notices come as explosions rocked Kabul's most popular luxury hotel Monday, killing at least six people, including one American and a journalist from Norway. Officials said the assault on the Serena Hotel by militants may signal a new era of Taliban attacks.

The military began notifying the Marines and their families over the weekend, as Defense Secretary Robert Gates was expected to sign the formal deployment orders. It was not clear Monday whether the orders had been signed yet.

Hotel attacker wore police uniform

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghanistan's intelligence service arrested a man wearing a police uniform suspected of taking part in a multipronged attack on Kabul's main luxury hotel that killed eight, officials said today.

A militant leader believed to be based in Pakistan was accused of masterminding the assault, which left dead at least one American and a journalist from Norway.

Amrullah Saleh, the head of the Afghan intelligence service, said three militants stormed the Serena Hotel on Monday evening. A guard shot and killed one attacker at the gate to the hotel's parking lot, which triggered his suicide vest.

A second attacker blew himself up near the entrance to the hotel's lobby, and the third attacker made it inside the hotel and shot his way through the lobby and toward the gym, Saleh said.

He alleged the attack was masterminded by Siraj Haqqani, a well-known militant leader thought to be based in Pakistan's tribal area in Miran Shah, the main town in North Waziristan. The U.S. military has a $200,000 bounty on Haqqani.

Kenya tightens parliament security

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — The government tightened security around Kenya's parliament today for its first session since a disputed presidential election, a fight that has provoked deadly violence and was expected to carry over to the selection of a house speaker.

President Mwai Kibaki and opposition leader Raila Odinga were both due to be sworn in as legislators during the session. It would mark the first time the two have been in the same room since Odinga accused Kibaki of rigging the Dec. 27 vote to win re-election.

Soldiers were deployed around the building and some roads in the area blocked off. Riot police were stationed along nearby thoroughfares.

A week of violence in the wake of the vote killed at least 612 people and displaced hundreds of thousands, according to a government commission.

Panel recommends gas tax increase

WASHINGTON (AP) — A special commission is urging the government to raise federal gasoline taxes by as much as 40 cents per gallon over five years as part of a sweeping overhaul designed to ease traffic congestion and repair the nation's decaying bridges and roads.

The two-year study being released today by the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission, the first to recommend broad changes after the devastating bridge collapse in Minneapolis last August, warns that urgent action is needed to avoid future disasters.

Under the recommendation, the current tax of 18.4 cents per gallon for unleaded gasoline would be increased annually for five years — by anywhere from 5 cents to 8 cents each year — and then indexed to inflation afterward to help fix the infrastructure, expand public transit and highways as well as broaden railway and rural access, according to persons with direct knowledge of the report, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the report is not yet public.

HOUSING DISCRIMINATION IS AGAINST THE LAW:

Notice to All Residents of Fayette County:

The Federal Fair Housing Law and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act prohibit discrimination in housing. The following actions, if based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, presence of children in a family, or disability, are considered discriminatory:

- **Refusing to sell or rent to, deal or negotiate with any person;**
- **Discriminating on terms or conditions for buying or renting housing;**
- **Discriminating by advertising that housing is available only to persons of a certain race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or physical characteristics;**
- **Denying that housing is available for inspection, sale or rent when it really is available;**
- **Blockbusting-for-profit, persuading owners to sell or rent housing by telling them that minority groups are moving into the neighborhood;**
- **Denying or making different terms or conditions for home loans by financial institutions;**
- **Denying to anyone the use of or participation in any real estate services, multiple-listing services or other facilities related to selling and renting of housing;**

The Cities of Connellsville and Uniontown and Townships of Bullskin, Dunbar, Georges, German, Luzerne, Menallen, North Union, Redstone, South Union, Washington and Wharton join with and support Fayette County in giving this Notice.

The Fayette County Housing Consortium (FCHC) has been designated as the Community Housing Resource Board and Fair Housing Officer for the County. Any persons who believe they have been discriminated against under any of the above conditions may file a complaint with the FCHC at the following address:

45 East Main Street, Suite 500
Uniontown, PA 15401
724-437-1547

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The Valley Independent LOTTERY RESULTS

PENNSYLVANIA DAILY NUMBERS

MONDAY, JAN. 14

DAY PICK 3:	6-2-7
NIGHT PICK 3:	5-5-5
DAY PICK BIG 4:	9-8-9-6
NIGHT PICK BIG 4:	4-6-7-6
TREASURE HUNT:	6-14-21-23-26
MIX & MATCH:	1-15-12-6-8
CASH 5:	7-13-14-19-22

OHIO DAILY NUMBERS

MONDAY, JAN. 14

DAY PICK 3:	9-1-1
NIGHT PICK 3:	4-0-9
DAY PICK 4:	5-4-4-4
NIGHT PICK 4:	6-2-4-2
ROLLING CASH 5:	6-10-15-22-36

WEST VIRGINIA DAILY NUMBERS

MONDAY, JAN. 14

DAILY 3:	2-3-5
DAILY 4:	6-8-6-7
CASH 25:	4-6-10-12-24-25

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of winning numbers and prize payouts. In the event of a discrepancy, the official and certified files maintained by the Pennsylvania Lottery's Security Office shall prevail.

THE Valley INDEPENDENT
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OUR OPINION

No quick fix for recession fears

HERE WE GO AGAIN. As talk of recession grows, so does talk of how to tackle it.

The quick-fix artists are proposing tax rebates. Those, they argue, quickly will get money into the public's hands and bolster spending, now lagging at just about every income level, and, to a lesser degree, bolster savings.

Some even want higher government spending through an increase in food stamp payments and extended unemployment benefits.

More sober and rational minds taking the long view take a short view of such dubious "pump-priming." The better strategy, they argue, are tax rate cuts. And the reasons are quite elementary -- the economy gets more bang for the buck.

To wit, a Heritage Foundation analysis during a similar debate in 2001 showed more than double the job creation with a cut in marginal tax rates vs. cash tax rebates, billions more in consumer spending and billions more in inflation-adjusted investment.

There's little doubt that some of our economic doldrums are being fueled by uncertainty over the future of the Bush tax-rate cuts set to expire in two years. It certainly has thrown sand into the economy's growth gears. Not only should those cuts be made permanent, additional cuts in the marginal tax rates should be enacted.

That said, all will be for naught if government can't control its spending. And make no mistake, the quick-fix artists are proposing even more government spending.

Do you agree? Do you disagree? The Valley Independent wants to hear from you. E-mail us at valleyletters@tribweb. com or write a letter to the editor. Include your phone number to allow for verification. Please limit letters to 350 words. We reserve the right to edit.

ANOTHER VIEW

The Standard, Nairobi, Kenya, on the elections and the resulting crisis:

The nation is bleeding. The people are weeping. We are ominously moving towards the picture of war-ravaged nations such as Somalia and the Democratic Republic of Congo. On the international television channels, we are ranked alongside them, and the running order of the clips speaks volumes on how the outside world sees us.

From the day the Electoral Commission declared President Kibaki had won the elections, at least 164 people have been either shot, hacked or bludgeoned to death in hotspots currently teeming with rage against his victory.

The Orange Democratic Movement has argued that its victory was stolen. The Party of National Unity has counter-claimed that in some areas where its support was low, the vote was manipulated.

We have said that if the veracity of both claims is not addressed, and the rising ethnic passions stemmed through dialogue, we shall continue to fight with the fury and determination of the Kilkenny cats. In the end, Scottish mythology says, nothing was left of the cats but just the tails.

We have urged both parties to the dispute to find the middle ground. For peace to be realized, it is not enough for the President to call for peace and calm while at the same time extolling his victory as the fruit of democratic choice. It is not enough to be sworn-in, in a hurry and in seclusion at State House, while being witnessed by a few.

It demands far much more to cast the Presidency as a national institution, whose ascendancy should be celebrated. Probably that is why the congratulations to the President have been short. ...

History will judge us in equal measure for the stands we take today.

How to reach us

The Valley Independent welcomes the input of our readers. Letters, e-mails and faxes must be signed and should include an address and daytime telephone number so the content of the message can be verified. (Phone numbers will not be published.)

Send your comments:

— By mail to Your Opinion, The Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa. 15062.

— By e-mail to valleyletters@tribweb.com

— By fax to (724) 684-2603.

All messages are subject to editing for clarification, brevity and libel. Messages should be kept to 300 words. (No poetry, please.)

While letters usually are published in order of submission, those concerning timely local issues are given priority.

Obama: the next Kennedy or Carter?

Morton **KONDRACKE**

MANCHESTER, N.H. — A door-to-door canvasser here for Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., told me all during the weekend before Tuesday's primary that his team was encountering independent voters torn between Clinton and Republican Sen. John McCain (Arizona).

Surely an anomaly, I thought. Then I ran into such a voter, a teacher taking her young daughter to campaign events. I asked her, "What about Barack Obama?"

"I've seen him five times," she said. "What he says sounds great, but it's all fluff. There's no meat there."

And that, I think, is one reason Clinton pulled out a campaign-saving victory over the Illinois Democrat here.

Welling tears may have helped "humanize" Clinton, especially with women voters, but I think she also made a dent with her updated version of Walter Mondale's 1984 taunt of his "new ideas" challenger, Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo.: "Where's the beef?"

Obama delivers thrilling speeches about "hope" and "change" and ending the poisonous partisanship that consumes Washington.

His crowds love the message, as do I. But they seem to cheer him most when he refers to what can be done if the partisanship ends — 47 million people can get health insurance, the planet can be saved from global warming, teachers will be better rewarded, youngsters will have early-childhood education, etc.

But it's a litany of objectives pretty much devoid of details. And Obama rarely engages in question-and-answer sessions with voters to give them a chance to draw him out — or him, to show how thoughtful he is.

Right now, he's a national Rorschach test, with voters reading into him their fondest hopes for what America can do and be. He's very good, but the New Hampshire results indicate that Democrats aren't yet ready to anoint him.

Outside one rally in Lebanon, N.H., I asked Obama campaign manager David Axelrod if more substantive speeches were coming soon. He said that they were, after Obama nailed down endorsements from the culinary workers union in Nevada and some politicians he wouldn't name — reportedly, some senators.

He got the culinary workers — a big coup — but senatorial endorsements aren't flooding, at least at the time I write this. It is time for Obama to put more meat on the bones and show where the beef is.

On the Republican side, it also would be advisable for McCain — after his astounding political resurrection here — to adapt his "I talk straight" and "I'm ready to lead" messages to address middle-class economic anxiety in upcoming races in Michigan and South Carolina, where populist-sounding former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee may have more appeal than he did in New Hampshire.

McCain has talked from time to time about the idea of offering workers "wage insurance" to protect them against losses if they lose a job and are forced to take one at less pay. He needs to emphasize that — and also to make the case that free trade is long-term good for American workers.

Huckabee is saying it isn't.

McCain also has to fend off former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, who is now portraying himself, like all the Democratic candidates, as an "agent of change" and charging that it's impossible for a "Washington insider" — McCain — to change that "broken" town.

Answering back, McCain could cite all the maverick reformist stances he's taken — campaign-finance reform and earmark control, for example — but some new policy ideas for the middle class also would help.

Romney also ought to be spelling out just how — with all the orthodox right-wing positions he's taken — he could repair the "brokenness" of Washington that he rightly says now makes it impossible to balance budgets, control illegal immigration, improve the schools and ensure that Americans keep the best jobs in the world.

Back on the Democratic side, meanwhile, Clinton's surprising victory seems to have been the product of three major factors — organization, women's turnout and last-minute doubts about Obama.

Pre-election polls showing Obama with a huge lead didn't anticipate that 57 percent of Democratic primary voters would be women, who went for Clinton by a margin of 47 percent to 34 percent for Obama and 15 percent for former Sen. John Edwards (N.C.).

He got the culinary workers — a big coup — but senatorial endorsements aren't flooding, at least at the time I write this. It is time for Obama to put more meat on the bones and show where the beef is.

Clinton also carried voters over 40 years old and under $50,000 in income — though, also those from $150,000 to $200,000 — and she won among registered Democrats by a margin of 45 percent to 34 percent over Obama.

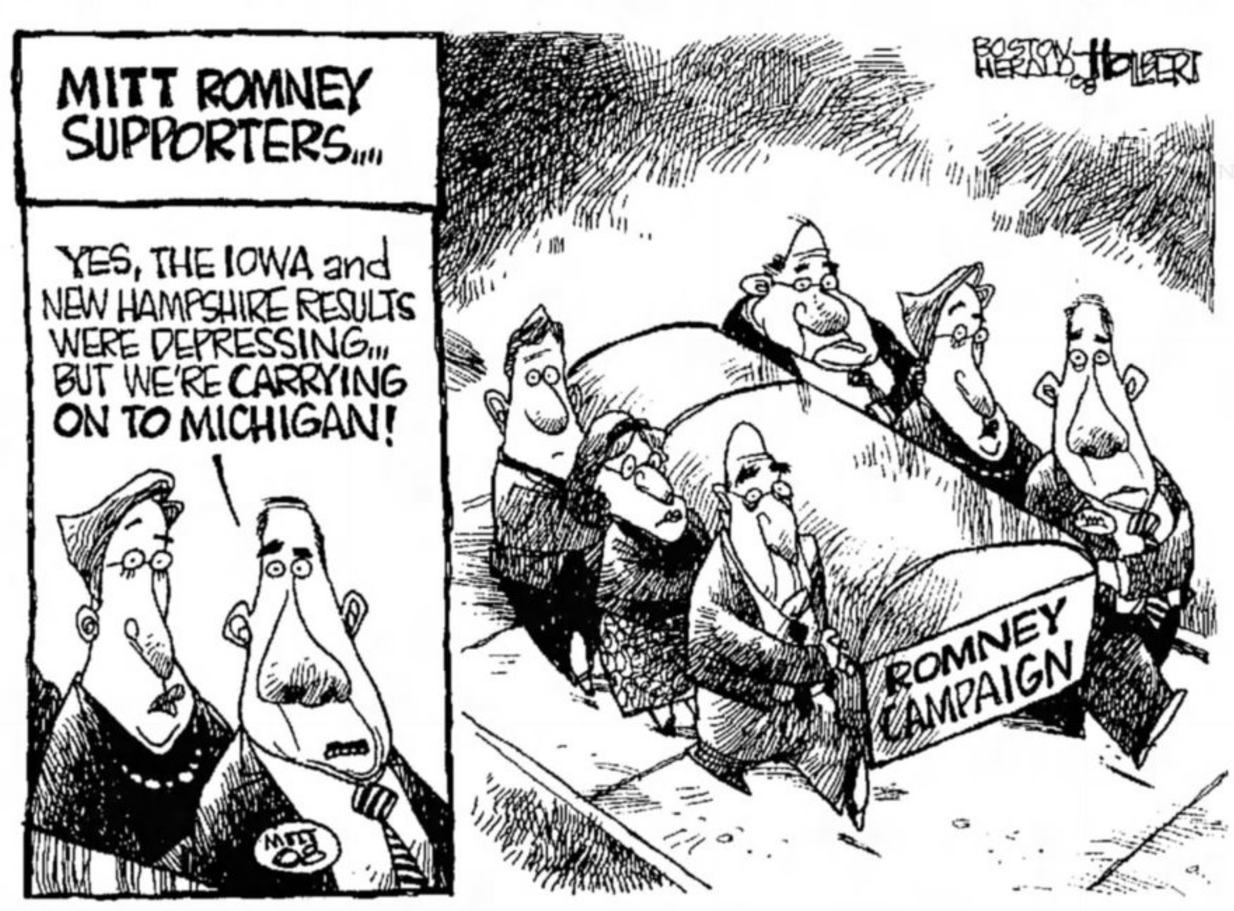
Undoubtedly, Clinton was helped by the enormous publicity given her emotional welling-up at a diner on Monday — which I think was a genuine response to an expected loss — but also by charges she made that she could deliver change and Obama couldn't.

Clinton also decided to engage in exhaustive Q and A sessions with voters — lasting 90 minutes at one event I attended in Nashua — demonstrating her exhaustive grasp of policy detail. She answered the questions cheerfully, too.

New Hampshire, I think, served as a check on a runaway romance they might regret.

In effect, voters here decided to give other states a chance to find out about Obama: Is he John F. Kennedy or Jimmy Carter.

Morton Kondracke is executive editor of Roll Call, the newspaper of Capitol Hill.


MITT ROMNEY SUPPORTERS...
YES, THE IOWA and NEW HAMPSHIRE RESULTS WERE DEPRESSING... BUT WE'RE CARRYING ON TO MICHIGAN!
BOSTON HERALD HOLLERT
ROMNEY CAMPAIGN

We don't really own our property

ANOTHER VIEW

To the Editor:

I have good friends and other acquaintances who have had the bad luck of having natural gas under their property.

They became prey of the gas drilling companies. I makes no difference if you say no to their offer. They're coming in to get it no matter what.

This all tells me that you don't really own your property. You're just using it. Even though it's paid for, it's only yours at tax time.

You can play on it. You can clear it. You can sell the timber. You can lease some of it out. But you don't actually own it if someone else can trespass on it, drill holes, mess up the ground and suck the gas out.

There is little compensation for the so-called owners. If I owned land — and I'm glad I don't — I wouldn't accept anything from these trespassers. Not a dime or ounce of gas would I accept.

Every time I would approach one of these trespassers, I would give them the all-American sign, saying nothing to them.

If you work for one of these drilling companies, even as bad as job finding is around here, you are guilty, too. Let them hire illegals to do their dirty work.

After these trespassers leave, the land is scarred forever for the owner.

Sometimes you think we are a free people, but no one is truly free anywhere unless you own your own country. We are better than most, and for this we should be thankful.

One thing more, If you accept money or gas from these people, you are really saying it's OK to drill.

Dave Ebert
Perryopolis

Cholesterol drug fails test

Vytorin combination shown no more effective than lone ingredient.

By JEFFREY GOLD
AP Business Writer

NEWARK, N.J. — A clinical trial has shown that the combination cholesterol drug Vytorin is no more effective than a high dose of one of its components available generically, Vytorin's makers said Monday.

Vytorin, developed by Merck & Co. and Schering-Plough Corp., is a combination of Zetia and Merck's Zocor, which lost patent protection in 2006. Amid concerns about whether Vytorin posed a risk of liver damage, Wall Street has been anxiously awaiting details on results of the study begun in 2002.

In the quarter ended Sept. 30, sales of Zetia and Vytorin hit $1.3 billion, up 26 percent from the year-ago period.

Merck and Schering-Plough market Zetia and Vytorin jointly and split the profits. Shares of both companies fell Monday.

The study measured the amount of artery-clogging plaque in three areas.

It focused on a group of 720 patients with a rare condition predisposing them to high cholesterol. The patients were given either Vytorin or a high dose of generic Zocor, known as simvastatin.

In December, a congressional committee requested more information on the study. The results were delayed, the companies maintained, because of the complexity of the data.

Goldman Sachs analyst James Kelly reaffirmed a "buy" rating on Schering-Plough, calling the results a "non-event" that don't represent Vytorin's commercial prospects. He said the results reaffirmed the drug's safety.

However, Banc of America Securities analyst Chris Schott reaffirmed a "neutral" rating on Schering-Plough. He said the results raise several questions about Vytorin's effectiveness, which will likely go unanswered until the company presents the data at the annual American College of Cardiology meeting in March.

The patients in the two-year study had rare condition called heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia, which the companies said affected about less than 1 percent of the population.

Earlier this month, Merck CEO Richard T. Clark said he expected Vytorin to keep a secure position in the cholesterol drug market and cited several other ongoing studies in addition to this one.

Merck and Schering-Plough are conducting three additional studies, involving more than 20,000 high-risk patients.

Shares in Whitehouse Station-based Merck fell 77 cents, or 1.3 percent, to $59.78 Monday, while share of Kenilworth-based Schering-Plough fell $2.21, or 8 percent, to $25.52.

Health for Her programs slated

Jefferson Regional Medical Center is offering several free community programs through its Health for Her initiative.

The free programs are held in the Jefferson Room in the Bibro Pavilion on the Medical Center's Jefferson Hills campus located at 565 Coal Valley Road. The programs are free, but seating is limited and advance registration is required.

Free parking is available in the Bibro lot. Call Community Programs at (412) 469-7100 to register.

Topics, dates and speakers include:

- Taming the Dragon – Managing Emotional Eating, Jan. 24, 5 to 7 p.m., with Dee Hepburn, LCSW, Jefferson Regional Medical Center therapist.
- Getting to the Heart of it: How Stress and Anxiety Impact Heart Disease, Feb. 11, 5 to 7 p.m., with Dr. Jack Smith, cardiologist.
- Latest Treatment in Migraine Therapy, Feb. 21, 5 to 7 p.m., with Dr. Nathan Bennett, family practice physician.
- Demystifying MRSA: Understanding the Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria, April 3, 5 to 7 p.m., with Dr. Jeffrey Burket, infectious disease and internal medicine, and Dr. Beverly Flannery, manager, infection control.

Hot spots are warning signs of foot ulcers

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON — Diabetics, watch out: A hot spot on your foot can signal an ulcer is brewing, a wound that could cost your limb.

New research shows that using a special thermometer to measure the temperature of their soles can give patients enough early warning to avoid one of diabetes' most intractable complications.

It's a simple-sounding protection for such a huge problem. Foot ulcers each year strike 600,000 U.S. diabetics, people slow to notice they even have a wound because diabetes has numbed their feet.

"They've lost the gift of pain," says Dr. David Armstrong of Chicago's Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, a diabetic foot specialist.

Worse, foot ulcers are so slow-healing and vulnerable to infection that they're to blame for most of the roughly 80,000 amputations of toes, feet and lower legs that diabetics undergo each year.

So word that an easy-to-use gadget could help is generating excitement. Using the thermometer reduced by nearly two-thirds the number of high-risk patients who got foot ulcers, Armstrong found in a study of 225 diabetic veterans, the third in a series of government-funded research to back the approach.

How does it work?

Inflammation goes along with tissue injury, and inflammation can be measured by a bump in temperature. It's subtle — a minimum 4-degree difference between, say, your right big toe and your left one that can occur days before the skin breaks.

"A wound really will heat up before it breaks down," Armstrong explains.

Patients measure half a dozen spots on each foot. When the thermometer signals a hot spot, they put up their feet for a day or so until the temperature normalizes. Easing pressure before the skin cracks lets the body heal more easily than it can with a full-blown wound.

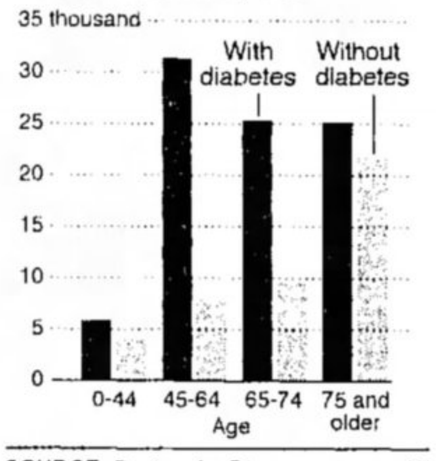
"Heat is one of the most sensitive things, one of the first things that happens when we begin to have tissue breakdown," says Dr. Crystal Holmes, a University of Michigan podiatrist who has begun prescribing the thermometers.

"It's looking positive that this sort of testing could be quite useful," adds Dr. Theresa Jones, who oversees research on diabetes complications at the National Institutes of Health."

Most amputations linked to diabetes

In 1997, 67 percent of lower extremity amputation (LEA) hospital discharges were *diabetes related.*

Hospital discharges, nontraumatic LEAs, 1997



SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention AP

MVH sets schedule

Monongahela Valley Hospital will offer the following programs the week of Jan. 21:

- Jan. 22 – Breastfeeding Support Group meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mon-Vale HealthPLEX, Rostraver Township. For information, call (724) 258-2229.
- Jan. 22, 23 and 24 - Managing your Diabetes, 6 p.m., Anthony M. Lombardi Education Conference Center. Three day, two-hour per day education series that focuses on diabetes self-management and care. For information or registration, call (724) 258-1483.

Researchers able to grow rat heart

Success may lead to new treatments for humans.

By RANDOLPH E. SCHMID
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON — Researchers seeking new treatments for heart disease managed to grow a rat heart in the lab and start it beating.

"While it still sounds like science fiction, we've hopefully opened a new door in the notion that we can build these tissues and one day provide options for patients with end-stage disease," said Dr. Doris Taylor, director of the Center for Cardiovascular Repair at the University of Minnesota. "We're not there yet, but at least now we have another tool in our tool belt."

Taylor led the team whose research appeared in Sunday's online edition of the journal Nature Medicine.

Scientists have worked for years for ways to grow body parts. Many efforts have focused on heart valves as an alternative to the plastic or animal valves that wear out after being implanted in humans.

An estimated 5 million people live with heart failure and about 550,000 new cases are diagnosed each year in the United States. Approximately 50,000 die annually waiting for a heart donor.

Taylor said in a telephone interview that her team began by trying to determine if it were possible to transplant rat heart cells. They took the hearts from eight newborn rats and removed all the cells. Left behind was a gelatin-like matrix shaped like a heart and containing conduits where the blood vessels had been. Scientists then injected cells back into this scaffold — muscle cells and endothelial cells, which line blood vessels.

The muscle cells covered the matrix walls and lined up together, while the endothelial cells found their way inside to coat the blood vessels, she said. Then the hearts were stimulated electrically.

"By two days we saw tiny, microscopic contractions, and by seven to eight days there were contractions large enough to see with the naked eye," she said. The tiny hearts could pump liquid at about one-fourth the rate of a normal fetal rat's heart.

"Obviously we have a long way to go," Taylor said. But the long-term hope, she said, is that a similar process could work with either human hearts from cadavers or pig hearts, with their cells stripped off and replaced by cells from the person needing a heart transplant to avoid rejection.

The next step is to take a pig heart, strip away the cells and repopulate it with cells from a pig to see if it will work in the larger heart.

Dr. John Mayer Jr., a heart specialist and researcher at Children's Hospital in Boston, said the report was an "important paper that advances the ball down the road." But, he said, "It's pretty long road."

Mayer, who was not part of Taylor's research team, noted that this was done in a small animal and it remains to be seen whether the same can be done in larger ones. He also wondered whether blood would flow freely, without clotting, through the reconstructed blood vessels.

"I think this is an important contribution, with more work to be done," Mayer said in a telephone interview.

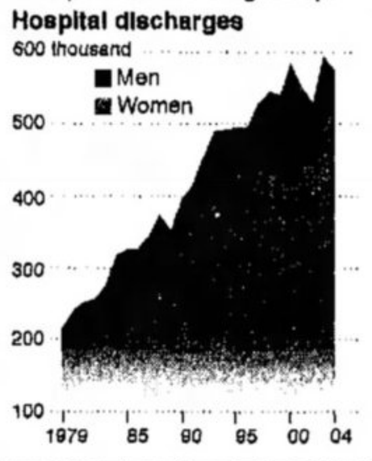
In her research paper, Taylor also reports that the researchers are working on reseeding cells into other organs, including lungs, liver and kidneys.

The research was funded by the University of Minnesota and the Medtronic Foundation, the charitable arm of a medical company that makes heart devices such as stents and defibrillators.

Living with falling hearts

The number of women discharged from hospitals for heart failure rose in 2004, while male patients took a slight drop.

Hospital discharges



SOURCE: American Heart Association AP

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Adopted daughter resents exclusion from family photos

DEAR ABBY: Please advise "Has Issues in New Hampshire" (Dec. 5) to speak up now.

My husband and I were married when my daughter was 8.

He adopted her, but even after that, when his family took photographs, she was excluded.

She's now 29 and still remembers those hurtful occasions when she was not included.

Ironically, the sister who did it every year is now married and has an adopted son, so things have changed.

But I deeply regret not saying something years ago because it affected the way my daughter feels about her aunt. — **WISER NOW, FARWELL, MICH.**

DEAR WISER NOW:

Dear **ABBY**

While most readers agreed that what the unofficial family photographer did was wrong, in fairness, not everyone did.

Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I see nothing wrong with taking photos of various family groups. Both my family and my husband's do it. We take pictures of everyone — just the siblings; the parents and children; the parents, children and spouses; all the grandchildren; etc. "Marian" took pictures that included all the children, so stop whining. — **NINE IN PLEASANT GAP, PA.**

DEAR ABBY: "Marian" is the one who should be excluded, for her stupidity. Our family is comprised of several blended families. We never use the words "step" or "half" — ever.

It is always "my sister," "my brother," "my mother," "my father."

When a sister died suddenly at 47, we all grieved.

When another was brutally murdered at 41, we all grieved.

Both times, all the sisters approached to place a rose into the casket to honor our beloved sibling.

Each time I turned around I saw my beloved "blended" family grieving as one.

My advice to "Marian" would be to buy a camera with a really wide-angle lens and leave nobody out. — **ELIZABETH IN WOODVILLE, TEXAS**

DEAR ABBY: The letter about the stepmom who insists on taking a yearly photograph of "blood" family members only made me chuckle.

Years ago, when our daughter was 6 weeks old (her brother was almost 2), we made the four-hour drive to attend my husband's family reunion.

The baby screamed the whole last half-hour of the ride.

I nursed her as soon as we arrived and handed her off to a cousin so I could eat.

Before I could finish, we were "summoned" to the back yard, where several aunts were taking family pictures.

I decided they would just have to do without our sleeping daughter. My husband and I posed with our son, but before we could get away, the cousin ratted us out. The baby, now screaming again, was presented to be added to the picture. The ladies were annoyed that they'd "wasted a shot," but aimed their cameras again.

Afterward, I looked down and was horrified to see our son had been picking his nose.

So our branch of the family was recorded with a screaming infant, a daughter-in-law who was angry enough to chew broken glass, and a 2-year-old with both index fingers buried in his nose. — **DEL IN MOBILE, ALA.**

DEAR ABBY: Out of my parents' six grandchildren, only two are biological; however, my parents make no distinction. "Marian" needs to be reminded that family is family. As far as our family is concerned, the "bonus children" are just as much "Calhouns" as the other grandkids. One of my favorite quotes is by Goldie Nash, who said, "Blood may be thicker than water, but love is thicker than blood." — **BRENDA Z., STAUNTON, VA.**

(Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.)

TUESDAY EVENING — JAN. 15, 2008

	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30	12AM	12:30	1AM	1:30	2AM	2:30
CBS (2) KDKA (7) WTRF (10) WTAJ	News (N)	(7) (10) CBS Evening News With Katie Couric (N)	(2) CBS Evening News-Couric/ (7) Entertainment/ (10) Inside	(2) The Insider (N)/ (7) Inside Edition/ (10) Two and a Half Men	NCIS "Tribes" The FBI suspects a mosque of terrorist recruitment. (N)		Comanche Moon Texas Rangers search for two American Indian outlaws. (N)				News (N)	Late Show With David Letterman Denzel Washington; Don Rickles. (N)		The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson Drew Carey. (N)		(2) Extra (N)/ (7) The Insider (N)/ (10) Everybody Loves Raymond	(2) (10) Paid/ (7) That '70s Show The gang pulls a prank.	(2) Paid/ (7) (10) CBS Up to the Minute (N)
ABC (4) WTAE (23) WATM	(4) News (N)/ (23) The Insider (N)	ABC's World News With Charles Gibson (N)	(4) Inside Edition/ (23) Jeopardy! (N)	(4) Entertainment Tonight/ (23) Wheel of Fortune	Just for Laughs Garage door mishap. (N)	Just for Laughs A portable toilet floats away.	According to Jim An evening alone with Cheryl.	Carpoolers Laird pretends to be married.	Boston Legal "Mad About You" Denny refuses Alan's help with a high-profile murder case. (N)		(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11 (N)/ (23) News (N)	Nightline (N)	Jimmy Kimmel Live		(4) Oprah Winfrey/ (23) Paid	(23) Paid	(4) Paid/ (23) Jerry Springer (N)	(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11
NBC (6) WJAC (9) WTOV (11) WPXI	News (N)	NBC Nightly News (N)	(6) Entertainment Tonight (N)/ (9) (11) Jeopardy! (N)	(6) Who Wants to Be a Millionaire/ (9) (11) Wheel of Fortune "Desert Passage"	The Biggest Loser: Couples Teams compete in a game of elimination. (N)				Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Unorthodox" A young Jewish boy is brutally attacked. (N)		News (N)	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (N)		Late Night With Conan O'Brien (N)		Last Call With Carson Daly	Poker After Dark Gavin Smith; Sam Grizzle; Jean-Robert Bellande; Mike Matusow; Shawn Sheikhan; Phil Hellmuth. (N)	
FOX (8) WWCP (53) WPGH	(8) The Simpsons/ (53) Two and a Half Men	(8) That '70s Show/ (53) Frasier	(8) Seinfeld/ (53) Two and a Half Men	Seinfeld Gang volunteers to comfort seniors.	American Idol Singers audition in Philadelphia. (Season Premiere) (N)				(8) News (N)/ (53) Channel 11 News on FOX 53 at 10 (N)	(8) Seinfeld Elaine's boyfriend wears a fur coat.	(8) The King of Queens/ (53) Seinfeld	(8) Frasier/ (53) Scrubs	(8) The Thomas Crown Affair/ (53) Scrubs	(53) Paid	(53) Paid	(53) Paid	(8) Dancing to a Better Body/ (53) Sex and the City	(8) Kitchen Innovations/ (53) Cheaters
(13) WQED	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Nightly Business Report	OnQ Magazine	Nova "Absolute Zero: The Race for Absolute Zero" (N)		Frontline "Dangerous Business"		Independent Lens "Mapping Stem Cell Research: Terra Incognita" (N)		Charlie Rose (N)			OnQ Magazine	Antiques Roadshow "Baltimore, Maryland"		American Experience "Oswald's Ghost" (N)	
(19) WPCW	The People's Court (N)		Everybody-Raymond	Everybody-Raymond	Reaper Sam and his friends seek their first escaped soul.		One Tree Hill "My Way Home Is Through You" (N)		The 10 O'Clock News	The Nightly Sports Call	Malcolm in the Middle	According to Jim	That '70s Show	King of the Hill	South Park	Paid	Paid	Paid
(22) WPMY	The Simpsons	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Family Guy	Street Patrol	Street Patrol	Jail	Jail	TMZ (N)	Frasier	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Paid		Paid	Bernie Mac	My Wife-Kids	Half & Half	Half & Half
(40) WPCB	The 700 Club		Focus 4		Theater	Master	F4 Generation	Today God	Rescuers	Quick Study	CBN News	Richard and Lindsay Roberts		Master	Focus 4		Gaither Homecoming Hour	
(59) WBGN	Temptation	Temptation	Degrassi	Reno 911!	The Nanny	Mad Abt. You	½ Armed and Dangerous (1986)				Reno 911!	Blind Date	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
A&E	Cold Case Files		CSI: Miami "Game Over"		The First 48		The First 48		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	The First 48		The First 48		The First 48		Parking Wars	Parking Wars
ABCFAM	8 Rules	8 Rules	Grounded-Life	Grounded-Life	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		America's Funniest Home Vi		The 700 Club		Whose Line?	Whose Line?	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
AMC	★★ Lionheart (1990)				★ Death Wish II (1982) Vigilante architect loose in L.A.				★ Death Wish II (1982) Vigilante architect loose in L.A.				★★½ The Hunt for Red October (1990)					
ANPL	The Crocodile Hunter		Big Cat Diary "Face Off"		Africa's Outsiders		Lions of Crocodile River		Animal Precinct (N)		Africa's Outsiders		Lions of Crocodile River		Animal Precinct		Big Cat Diary "Face Off"	
BBC	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		BBC World News America		Life on Mars		Life on Mars (N)		BBC World News America		Life on Mars		Life on Mars		Coupling	World	The Weakest Link	
BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live (N)			★★½ Brown Sugar (2002)					What's In It	News Special	Hell Date	Hell Date	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	★★½ Brown Sugar (2002)			
BRAVO	Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Kathy Griffin: Straight to Hell		Million Match	Hey Paula
CMT	My Truck	My Truck	My Truck	Redneck Wed	Home Videos	Home Videos	Home Videos	Home Videos	Home Videos	Home Videos	Foxworthy's	Foxworthy's	Foxworthy's	Foxworthy's	Cyrus, Home	Cyrus, Home	CMT Music	
CNBC	Mad Money		Kudlow & Company		Fast Money		Deal or No Deal		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money		Deal or No Deal		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Paid	Paid
CNN	The Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360	
COM	★★½ The Last Shot (2004)		Scrubs	Scrubs	Daily Show	Colbert	Futurama	South Park	Demetri Martin		Daily Show	Colbert	Demetri Martin		Daily Show	Colbert	Presents	Presents
COURT	Wildest Police Videos		Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Disorder in the Court II		Most Shocking		Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Cops	Cops	Disorder in the Court II		Most Shocking	
CSPAN	House of Representatives				Tonight From Washington						Capital News Today						Today in Washington	
DISC	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	How It's Made	How It's Made	Dirty Jobs Gardening pots.		Dirty Jobs Cave biologist. (N)		Some Assembly Required (N)		MythBusters		Dirty Jobs Gardening pots.		Dirty Jobs Cave biologist.		Some Assembly Required	
DISNEY	Cory in House	Cory in House	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	★★½ Eddie's Million Dollar Cook-Off (2003)			That's-Raven	That's-Raven	Life Derek	Zack & Cody	Han. Montana	Replacements	Kim Possible	Emperor New	Dragon	Buzz Light	Timon
E!	Kardashians	Chelsea	E! News (N)	The Daily 10	Jenna Jameson: The E! True Hollywood Story				The Girls Next Door		E! News	Chelsea	The Daily 10	★★★ High Fidelity (2000)				Chelsea
ESPN	SportsCenter		College Basketball Ohio State at Michigan State.				College Basketball Kentucky at Mississippi State.				SportsCenter		NFL Live (N)	Fastbreak	SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPNC	Schwab	Schwab	Missing Link	Missing Link	Boxing		Russo & Steele Car Auction		On the Block (N)		Bull Riding: Ride Hard Tour		Boxing	New Year	Wrestling	Wrestling	Cheap Seats	Arliss
ESPN2	Tennis: Australian Open		College Basketball Creighton at Northern Iowa.				NBA Coast-to-Coast				Tennis Australian Open — Early Round — Day 3, From Melbourne, Australia.					2007 World Series of Poker		Poker
EWTN	Choices-Face	Stand	Daily Mass: Our Lady		Mother Angelica-Classic		Religious	Holy Rosary	Threshold of Hope		Human Sexuality		Daily Mass: Our Lady		Mother Angelica-Classic		Threshold of Hope	
FNC	Special Report		Fox Report-Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		Special Report	
FOOD	Minute Meals	Minute Meals	Emeril Live Jacques Pepin.		Good Eats	Good Eats	Bobby Flay	Bobby Flay	Ace of Cakes	A Cook's Tour	Good Eats	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay	Bobby Flay	Ace of Cakes	A Cook's Tour	Good Eats	Unwrapped
FSN	Final Score	Savran on SportsBeat		Knockouts	Sport Science		Best Damn Sports Show		SportsBeat	Final Score	Best Damn Sports Show		Final Score	Best Damn Sports Show		SportsBeat	Final Score	Final Score
FX	★★★ Spider-Man 2 (2004)		★★★ Batman Begins (2005) Bruce Wayne becomes Gotham City's Dark Knight. Premiere.						Nip/Tuck "Rachel Ben Nalan"		Nip/Tuck "Rachel Ben Nalan"		'70s Show	'70s Show	Married...	Married...	Paid	Guthy-Renker
GOLF	Golf-Academy	Inside PGA	Chrysler Classic Highlights		Celebrity Golf	Golf Central	Trevino & Lopez (N)		Big Break: Mesquite		Celebrity Golf	Golf Central	Trevino & Lopez		Inside PGA	Golf Central	Golf-Academy	Golf Central
GSN	Lingo	Whammy	Weakest Link		Be a Millionaire		How Much	Family Feud	Family Feud	Chain	Lingo	Whammy	Be a Millionaire		Trivia Trap	Now You See	High Stakes Poker	
HALL	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger		Annie's Point (2005)				Murder, She Wrote		Murder, She Wrote		Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger	
HGTV	Small Space	If Walls Could	House Worth?	House	Designed-Sell	My Kitchen	Desperate Sp.	Open House	House	Secrets Sell	House Worth?	Hid Potential	Designed-Sell	My Kitchen	Desperate Sp.	Open House	House	Secrets Sell
HIST	The Universe		Modern Marvels		The Universe		The Universe "Dark Matter"		Mega Disasters		Modern Marvels		The Universe		The Universe "Dark Matter"		Mega Disasters	
LIFE	Reba	Reba	Still Standing	Still Standing	Reba	Reba	★★½ Just Ask My Children (2001)				Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Frasier	Frasier	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	The Nanny	Paid
MSNBC	Tucker		Hardball		Countdown-Olbermann		Presidential Debate Las Vegas.				Democratic Debate Coverage		Countdown-Olbermann		Lockup: Holman		Lockup: Holman	
MTV	True Life	True Life		Run's House	Run's House	Run's House	Rob & Big	Life of Ryan	Life of Ryan	Rob & Big (N)	Life of Ryan	Rob & Big	Run's House	Run's House	Next	Next	Next	Next
NICK	Drake & Josh	Drake & Josh	Zoey 101	Ned's School	SpongeBob	Drake & Josh	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	George Lopez	George Lopez	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	George Lopez	George Lopez	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince
OXY	Janice Dickinson Modeling		Janice Dickinson Modeling		Bad Girls	Bad Girls	Bad Girls	Bad Girls	Bad Girls	Janice Dickinson Modeling	Bad Girls		The Tyra Banks Show		Janice Dickinson Modeling		The Tyra Banks Show	
PCN	PCN Tours		PA Public Affairs														Deutsche Welle News	
PCNC	Lynn Cullen Show Talk show.		News	News	NightTalk With Ann Devlin		News		NightTalk With Ann Devlin		Hansberger	Fedko Fone	News			Paid	NightTalk With Ann Devlin	
SCIFI	Stargate SG-1		Dark Angel "Meow"		Dark Angel		Guinea Pig	Guinea Pig	ECW Chavo's last chance.		Guinea Pig	Guinea Pig	Flash Gordon "Ebb and Flow"		Twilight Zone	Twilight Zone	The X-Files "Dreamland"	
SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: NY "Super Men"		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Star Trek: Voyager		Star Trek: Deep Space Nine	
TBS	Friends	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	The Office	The Office	10 Items-Less	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	10 Items-Less	Frank Caliendo: All Over		10 Items-Less	Gone Fishin'
TCM	★★½ The Unfinished Dance (1947)				★★½ The Landlord (1970)				★★★ Bad Company (1972) Premiere.			★★★ Targets (1968) Premiere.				★★★ What's Up, Tiger Lily? (1966)		
TLC	Property Ladder		Miss America Reality Check		Miami Ink "Ami's Anger"		London Ink Birthdays. (N)		LA Ink "Pixie Moonlights" (N)		LA Ink "Pixie Moonlights"		London Ink Birthdays.		Miami Ink "Ami's Anger"		Miss America Reality Check	
TNT	Law & Order "City Hall"		Law & Order "Ghosts"		Cold Case "Glued"		Cold Case "The Letter"		Cold Case "Boy in the Box"		Cold Case "Disco Inferno"		Without a Trace "At Rest"		Without a Trace "Skin Deep"		Without a Trace	
TOON	Scooby-Doo	Scooby-Doo	Codename	Camp Lazlo	Foster	Courage-Dog	Grim Advent.	Gym Partner	Ed, Edd	Naruto	Family Guy	Family Guy	Metalocalypse	Bleach	Ghost In Shell	Eureka 7	Family Guy	Family Guy
TRAVEL	Jasper National Park		Yellowstone: National Park		Hamburger Paradise		Treasures	Treasures	Bizarre Foods-Zimmern		25 Mind Blowing Escapes (N)		Hamburger Paradise		Treasures	Treasures	Bizarre Foods-Zimmern	
TVLAND	Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	Sanford	Jeffersons
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		★★ Bringing Down the House (2003)				Law & Order: SVU		★★★ Barbershop 2: Back in Business (2004)			
VH1	The Shot		The Shot		Scott Baio 46		Celebrity Rehab		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		Scott Baio 46		Celebrity Rehab		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		Web Junk 40	
VS.	NHL Hockey	Dakar High.	NHL Hockey Montreal Canadiens at New York Islanders.					Hockey	TapouT		Legends of the Ring				TapouT		WEC WrekCage	
WE	Twister Sisters		Twister Sisters		Twister Sisters		Twister Sisters		Twister Sisters (N)		Alien Abduct	Alien Abduct	Secret Lives of Women		Twister Sisters		Twister Sisters (N)	
WGN	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	WGN News at Nine (N)		Scrubs	Scrubs	Corner Gas	Becker	Funniest Home Videos		The Steve Wilkos Show (N)	
ENC	★ Bio-Dome	★½ National Lampoon's Vegas Vacation			★★½ Sleeping With the Enemy (1991)			★★★★ Platoon (1986)				★★★½ Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991)					★½ One Eight Seven (1997)	
HBO	★★ Unaccompanied Minors (2006)		★★★ Over the Hedge (2006)				★½ Norbit (2007)				Countdown	The Wire		★★★★ Children of Men (2006)				Real Sex Xtra
MAX	★★ Reno 911!: Miami (2007)		Andrew Jenks, Room 335 (N)		★ The Hitcher (2007)				★★½ Fast Times at Ridgemont High (1982)		Naked Sins (2006)				Coed Confid.	★★★ Panic (2000)		
SHOW	★★½ Return to Paradise		★★½ Star Trek: Insurrection (1998)				The L Word		★★½ Jackass: Number Two (2006)		★★ Waiting ... (2005)				★★½ Candy (2006)			
STARZ	★★ Freedomland (2006)			★★ The Wild (2006)			★★½ The Good German (2006)				★★½ Invincible (2006)		★★★½ The Insider (1999)					
TMC	★★ To Walk With Lions (1999)				★★★ Election (1999)				★★½ Madea's Family Reunion (2006)				★★½ Lianna (1983)				Nat. Lampoon's Barely Legal	

Helping 56 Homeowners By "Giving Away" $2,621 Furnaces For '941 with Dll-Season Central Air

This is great news for your wallet if your furnace is over 12 years old. Because, yes, it's absolutely true...you can actually replace your old (and probably very inefficient) furnace and air conditioner as a package for at least $1680 less than you would have to pay at any other time.
Please allow me to explain...

Every year, the months of January, February, March and April can "destroy" my business. I end up losing a ton of money during these "business destroyer" months and it can take me the remaining nine months to make up for them. I'm looking for the same thing to happen this year. That is why

Why Problem Is An Excellent Opportunity For You

I employ great people and I want to keep them working during these long, hard months. That is why I've decided to give up trying to make a profit during the "business destroyer" months. If I can only minimize my losses during January, February, March and April, I will come out ahead of the game.

"Giving" you the furnace and all I ask for is the $941 in labor costs for installation.

Excited To Let Your Home

Just call me at 724-258-2216 (6 anytime). I will come out and measure your home (and determine the availability of the proper size). Don't forget, I only have 56 matched systems in four sizes. When they are gone, this remarkable offer ends also.

I will show you the real-world price on the air conditioner that fits your home. Then, I will show you the substantial savings available now. And it will include all labor and installation materials. Nothing is left out.

What A Really Simple Concept

By letting you win big now, I will win at the end of the year.
I'm betting that if I make you an offer that is "irresistible" (at least it should be if your furnace or air conditioner is over 12 years old), you will more than make up the price I

If I can accomplish these two objectives, I will minimize my losses and the rest of the year, I can be a winner.

You Can Buy With No Cash!

You don't even have to pay me right away. I have set up a terrific bank rate financing plan. I even decided not to mark up the interest rate like some companies do.

Consider this: If you decide to make monthly investments instead of paying cash, the entire amount of your payments might be more than offset by the savings on your utility bills. It's like "having your cake and eating it too"

Total Efficiency Guarantee

I'm so confident that you will save at least 25% on your cooling and heating bills (I'm projecting more like 30% to 50%), that I will pay you Double The Difference for a year if you don't. I'll show you exactly how this works.

There is no way you can lose. Your lower utility bills will help pay for this. And I will

Why This Offer Can't Last

You must act before April 30th. Here are the reasons why:

I only have 14 systems for each of the sizes to offer. When all of the air conditioners are sold and all the furnaces "given" away in a particular size, that's it. There are no more at this price.

If I have any of the 56 systems left on April 30th (although I doubt I will), the offer ends.

Give me a call now at 724-[illegible] and I will set an appointment for your no-obligation survey.

Tim Garman
Owner

Garman's ONE HOUR

McFadden entering draft

Darren McFadden will skip his senior season at Arkansas and enter the NFL draft. 2B

Valley SPORTS

Federer advances

Roger Federer overcame the stomach flu to beat Diego Hartfield in the Australian Open. 2B

Thrilling finish

Elizabeth Forward's girls trailed Ringgold for most of Monday's game, but rallied late for a 52-49 win. 2B

Sports Trivia

Who was the last Pittsburgh City League basketball player to play for Pitt before DeJuan Blair? 2B

Last night's game

Pittsburgh 4, N.Y. Rangers 1

Brian **HERMAN**

Payne, Walton are among speakers at Griffey affair

Speakers have been set for Saturday's banquet honoring Donora's Ken Griffey Sr. at the Willow Room in Rostraver Township.

Doing the honors will be Ulice Payne, Judge Reggie Walton and Charles Stacey.

A 1973 Ringgold High graduate where he was one of the best basketball players in the school's history, Payne has gone on to make a name for himself as a Milwaukee attorney and community activist.

Payne made Major League Baseball history in 2002 as the first African-American president and CEO of the Milwaukee Brewers. The following year Payne was listed 14th on Sports Illustrated's list of "101 Most Influential Minorities in Sports."

A 1969 Donora High graduate and football teammate of Griffey, Walton is in his first year of a seven-year term as a Judge of the United States Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court.

Walton was appointed to the Superior Court bench in 1981, and seven years ago President George W. Bush nominated him as United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

A former Donora High principal and Ringgold's first superintendent, Stacey taught Griffey, Payne and Walton.

Also on hand at the banquet will be long-time Major League Baseball scout Elmer Gray, who signed Griffey when he worked for the Cincinnati Reds.

A crowd of 400 is expected for the banquet with 75 tickets still available.

■ Steve Campos was the athletic director at Ringgold when it started an athletic hall of fame two years ago.

Now as the new AD at Freedom High, Campos is hoping to see the Beaver County school have one.

He'd like to start raising money with a Jimbo Covert golf tournament in honor of probably Freedom's best-known athlete.

A two-time Pitt All-American tackle and member of the College Football Hall of Fame Class of 2003, Covert went on to play seven seasons for the Chicago Bears and was named to the NFL 1980s All-Decade Team.

Getting back to Campos, his father , Lou — who started the wrestling program at Freedom — has Donora roots. He resided in the Home of Champions until eighth grade, and one of his neighbors was Archie Rodriguez.

Meanwhile, Campos' son, Luca, was the leading scorer as a sophomore with 23 goals for the Center soccer team, which went 20-5 and advanced to the PIAA Class AA quarterfinals before losing 1-0 in overtime to Mars.

■ And thanks to Art Doty, of Monongahela, who says retirement is when you putter around the yard and mutter around the house!

Hoya destroyers

Panthers upset No. 5 Georgetown, 69-60.

By ALAN ROBINSON
AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH — When Pitt's only two returning starters from last season's 29-win team were badly injured last month, the only question seemed to be how quickly the Panthers would drop out of the Top 25.

What few considered was this: Not only would they stay ranked without point guard Levance Fields and small forward Mike Cook, but they are moving up in the ratings after an initial drop.

The 15th-ranked Panthers, down to No. 20 a week ago, pulled off one of their most impressive victories in recent seasons Monday night, never trailing in a 69-60 victory over No. 5 Georgetown.

The way they played — getting outside scoring from Keith Benjamin and Ronald Ramon and a strong inside presence from freshman center DeJuan Blair — the Panthers didn't look like a team that's interested in dropping out of the poll anytime soon. They play at Cincinnati on Saturday.

"Clearly, losing the two guys that they did was key, but their talent level is extremely high," Georgetown coach John Thompson III said. "The guys that now are playing more minutes seem a lot more comfortable out there.'

Benjamin, a starting forward now that Cook's career has ended because of a knee injury, has benefited most from the increased playing time. He scored 18 points, giving him a 16.6 average in the last five games after he reached double figures only twice in his first 12 games.

Ramon, unsettled for a few games after moving from shooting guard to the point, had 18 points, four assists and only one turnover in 36 minutes as Pitt (15-2, 3-1 Big East) won its fourth consecutive home game against a top five team.

The surprise is the Panthers did it with so few players — coach Jamie Dixon is effectively down to a seven-man rotation — and despite a substantial height disadvantage. The 6-foot-7 Blair gave up 7 inches to Georgetown center Roy Hibbert, but outscored him 15-12 and had nine rebounds to Hibbert's 10.

"I knew it would be hard, banging in there against him," Blair said. "But this is why I came to Pitt, why I came into the Big East. I guess Aaron (Gray, Pitt's center last season) didn't bang him as hard."

Blair was referring to Georgetown's 65-42 rout of Pitt in the Big East championship game 10 months ago, when Hibbert had 18 points and 11 rebounds to Gray's three points and five rebounds. But while the Hoyas (13-2, 3-1) return four starters from that team, Pitt currently has none, although Fields (broken foot) could return late next month.

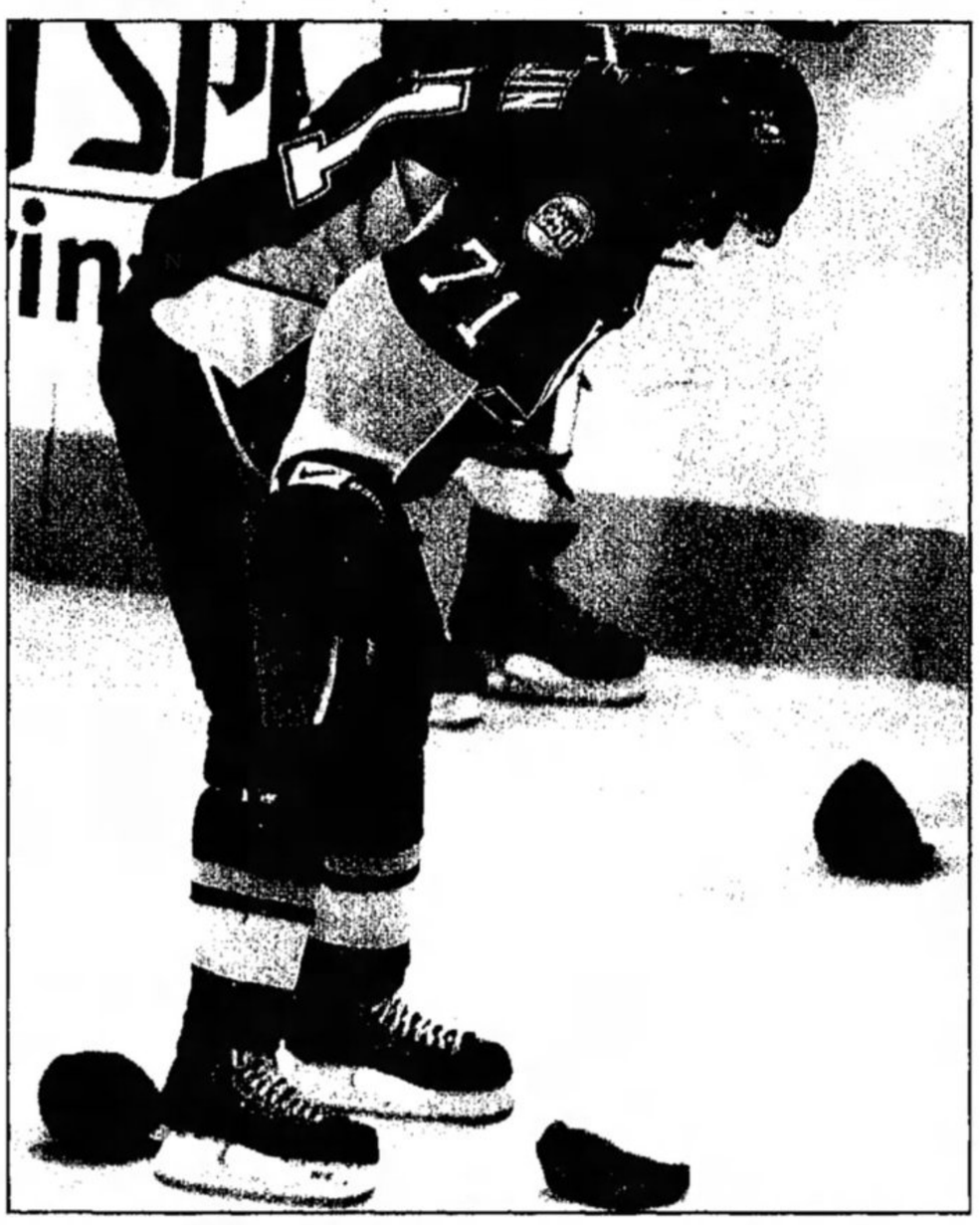
"Teams felt like they had a better chance of beating us when we went down a few guys, but we knew we would come out stronger, and we've been proving it since they went down," Ramon said.

The Hoyas, coming off a 72-69 victory Saturday over Connecticut, never led as their five-game winning streak ended.

They fell behind 8-2 in the opening 3 minutes and, despite getting within one point on Jonathan Wallace's 3-pointer from near midcourt to end the first half, went down by 12 when Pitt started the second half with a 15-4 run.

Associated Press

Pittsburgh's Sam Young, goes up for a shot during the Panthers' win over Georgetown Monday night.



Evgeni Malkin watches as hats litter the ice Monday after he scored his third goal in a 4-1 win over the New York Rangers.

Associated Press

Malkin's hat trick sinks Rangers

Russian star credits Sidney Crosby for helping with recent scoring spree.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Evgeni Malkin is making scoring look simple lately.

With Sidney Crosby feeding him the puck, it's hardly a difficult task for the Pittsburgh Penguins' center.

Malkin scored three goals for the second time in six games, and Conklin stopped 43 shots to remain unbeaten in regulation as the Penguins beat the New York Rangers 4-1 Monday night.

"It's very easy to play with someone like Crosby," Malkin said. "He's the best player in the world, and he was making such great passes, so I just have to get myself open and he will get me the puck."

Malkin, whose first NHL hat trick was Jan. 3 against Toronto also at home, has eight goals and three assists in the Penguins' last six games. The 21-year-old Russian — last season's rookie of the year — moved into a tie for sixth in the Eastern Conference in goals with 23, but wasn't named to the All-Star team.

"I'm kind of a little bit disappointed, but that means I'll have to work a little bit harder," he said.

Pittsburgh entered Monday's game looking to improve against Atlantic Division opponents. The Penguins entered only 4-10-1 against division opponents, but 21-6-2 against everyone else. They had won only two of their past 11 in the division.

"We wanted to improve that," Crosby said. "It's only one, but it's a starting point. We know we have to be stronger in that area, so we will take it for sure."

Crosby had two assists and Sergei Gonchar also scored for the Penguins, who are 9-0-1 in their last 10 and have won six in a row at home. Conklin, who has started the past 10 games, improved to 10-0-1 overall.

"It's been the same story. It's like a broken record (with Conklin)," Crosby said. "He's been so consistent and made some key saves, some big ones when we needed him to and gave us a chance to chip away."

Malkin scored just 3:31 in when the Rangers inexplicably didn't cover him after he took the puck in the right-wing corner and skated untouched toward the net before flipping a wrist shot over the stick side of Henrik Lundqvist.

"We gave them too much space tonight," New York's Jaromir Jagr said. "We've got to play them differently. They're too young, too quick."

Crosby assisted on that goal to

(See PENGUINS, Page 3B)

Monessen girls blast Steel Valley

Lady Greyhounds stay unbeaten with 75-51 win.

By JEFF OLIVER
Staff Writer
joliver@tribweb.com

MONESSEN — Any coach would love to see his team hitting its stride going into the playoffs.

While the Monessen Lady Greyhounds have not quite peaked yet, they are certainly headed in the right direction.

That was apparent after Monday's impressive 75-51 romp over Steel Valley in a non-section contest.

The Lady Greyhounds (17-0) jumped out to a 15-2 lead midway through the first quarter and never looked back as they outclassed a decent Class AAA Lady Ironmen (8-8) team.

"Every game, we're getting better," admitted Monessen coach Major Corley. "We gave up 51 points, but that's a pretty good team that likes to fire up the threes. I thought we played good defense.

"I thought we ran them early and then got them a little tired in the first half. We really pushed the ball and worked hard on defense. But we still have to keep working and getting better."

How impressive were the Lady Greyhounds?

By the latter moments of the third quarter, the hosts were up by more than 20 points and had four players in double figures.

"Having 60 points after three quarters and four players in double figures shows the balance we are capable of," said Corley. "But what really makes me happy is what we got from our big girls."

The "big girls" were juniors Samone Stepoli and Jessica Diggs, who each scored 15 points.

"If we can get 30 points from our inside girls, we are going to be awfully hard for anyone to beat," Corley said.

Christina Chukwuedo led Monessen with 20 points, including 13 in the first half when the winners raced out to a 43-24

(See MONESSEN, Page 3B)

SPORTS

EF girls take thriller from Ringgold

Lady Warriors rally late to capture battle of Class AAA powers.

By BILL HUGHES
For The Valley Independent

ELIZABETH TOWNSHIP — For the first 26:32 of their non-section game with Ringgold Monday, Elizabeth Forward's girls trailed.

The Lady Warriors took the lead with 5:28 remaining on a Cassy Sanderson layup and held on for a thrilling 52-49 victory in the battle of highly touted Class AAA teams.

"This was a great game and I give Ringgold credit," EF coach John Hearn said. "Ringgold is a really good club and both teams played hard. This was an exciting game."

Ringgold coach Joe Ravasio agreed.

"This was a great game and both teams wanted it," he said. "The fact that we got to play against a good basketball team away will get us ready for the playoffs. It will help us down the road."

Ringgold (12-4) used hot shooting from the outside in the first half to take an early lead.

"They were giving our guards space on offense and we were able to hit open shots," Ravasio said. "We were shooting exceptional from the outside early."

Ringgold hit six first half three-pointers, but only had one after intermission.

"I told the team to keep playing good defense and that is what our team did," Hearn said. "Our defense did a good job."

Ringgold held the lead after each respective quarter (16-12 after one, 26-22 after two, and 38-33 after three), but they could never put the game away.

Part of the reason was the foul trouble for guards Jenny Affinito and Emily Schartner.

Both had two fouls in the first half, picked up their third foul in the third quarter and number four early in the final frame.

With 6:53 left in the game and Ringgold holding a 41-33 lead, Elizabeth Forward (14-3) went on a 9-0 run to take a 42-41 lead on Sanderson's layup.

With 4:44 left, Sanderson hit the second of two free throws to make it 43-41, with Ringgold's Tabitha Leach tying the game after an offensive rebound.

With 3:36 left, Alana Resanovich stole a pass and scored to give the Lady Rams a 45-43 lead, but EF's Kristen Hawkins made two free throws with 3:19 left to knot it at 45-45.

After each team had two chances to take the lead, Schartner was called for her fifth foul and Sanderson hit the free throws to give the Lady Warriors a 47-45 lead with 1:59 to go.

Affinito was fouled on Ringgold's next possession and tied the score with two free throws of her own with 1:48 left.

"This was Jenny's best game,' Ravasio said. "She is getting better each game."

With 41 seconds left on the clock, Hawkins was fouled and made the second of two free throws to give the hosts the lead, and then she stole a pass and went the distance to give EF a 50-47 lead with 24 seconds to go.

Eleven seconds later, Affinito made two free throws to cut the deficit to 50-49, but the Lady Warriors' Taylor Ohm closed the scoring with a pair of free throws.

Ringgold would get two chances to hit a three-pointer to tie the score, but time ran out.

Sanderson led all scorers with 23 points while Rachel Hirnyk added 10 for Elizabeth.

Affinito (14) and Schartner (13) combined for 27 points for Ringgold.

For the second straight night, EF will host a section leader when they face Derry. Ringgold returns to the court Wednesday at Allderdice.

Australian Open

Federer shakes off ilness to beat Hartfield

Venus Williams joins her sister with a first-round victory.

By PAUL ALEXANDER
Associated Press Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia — Top-ranked Roger Federer showed no lasting effects from a nasty stomach bug, routing Diego Hartfield of Argentina 6-0, 6-3, 6-0 today to open his quest of a third consecutive Australian Open title.

The illness forced Federer to pull out of last week's exhibition tournament at Kooyong, interrupting his preparations as he seeks to pull within one of Pete Sampras' record of 14 Grand Slam championships.

"I'm very happy to be back playing," Federer said. "I'm not sick very often so it was a bit of a scare."

Playing a match on the new blue Plexicushion surface in Rod Laver Arena for the first time, he looked just a tad rusty in the first game, with Hartfield getting his only break-point opportunity.

The Swiss star, dressed in all black, quickly found his form and began ripping winners from all over the court, quashing any suggestions that he might be vulnerable for an early upset.

Venus Williams overcame a rash of mistakes to post her first victory here in three years, beating China's Yan Zi 6-2, 7-5.

The eighth-seeded Williams, who lost in the first round at Melbourne Park in 2006 and was out last year with injuries before starting a comeback that included the Wimbledon title, was her own worst enemy.

She finished with 29 unforced errors and only 19 winners. Serving for the match at 5-3, she double-faulted twice while getting broken at love, then finished it off by breaking as Yan served at 5-6.

Williams, who joined sister Serena, the defending champion, in the second round, shrugged off her mistakes, saying: "Errors happen. That's tennis."

Fortunately for her, Yan didn't have enough offense and was content to slug it out from the baseline — she finished with only five winners.

"I felt good out there," Williams said. "Had a lot of fun. Got to hit a lot of balls, which I felt was good. She definitely made me play some balls that I wasn't expecting to come back."

The tournament experienced its first crowd violence problem as Greece's Konstantinos Economidis played last year's losing finalist, seventh-seeded Fernando Gonzalez of Chile.

Tournament officials said play was interrupted for five minutes while police sprayed three people with pepper spray. Five were evicted.

Gonzalez won in straight sets.

Roger Federer

Third-ranked Novak Djokovic showed he has recovered from the exhaustion at the end of last year, when he played 87 matches, more than any other men's player. He looked refreshed, sharp and hungry again as he beat Benjamin Becker 6-0, 6-2, 7-6 (5).

His brief offseason consisted of ... nothing.

"I tried not to do anything. That's a real rest," said Djokovic, seeded third after coming in at No. 16 last year.

After the match, the television commentator implored Djokovic to do one of his impressions of another player — specifically Maria Sharapova — that have generated huge attention on Youtube.

At first, he resisted — "I don't want to offend anybody," he said — before doing a good impersonation, right down to the Russian player's tendency to brush strands of her long blonde hair back over her ears.

No. 10 David Nalbandian, who beat Federer and Rafael Nadal at consecutive tournaments to win the Madrid and Paris titles, recovered from back spasms that forced him out of the Kooyong exhibition to oust Australian Robert Smeets.

Former U.S. Open and Wimbledon winner Lleyton Hewitt started his 12th bid to become the first homegrown winner of the national championship since 1976 by downing Steve Darcis of Belgium.

No. 12 James Blake beat Nicolas Massu, and Marcos Baghdatis, who lost the 2006 final, defeated 2002 champion Thomas Johansson.

Marat Safin, who lost the 2002 final but made amends with the title here in 2005, next faces Baghdatis after overcoming Latvia's Ernests Gulbis.

Charleroi misses Neff in loss to Bentworth

Makaya Neff scored 19 points to lead Charleroi to a 43-36 win at Bentworth last month in their first Class AA Section 5 meeting.

Neff, however, was missing for Monday's rematch after getting injured in Thursday's big win at Beth-Center.

Neff's absence proved costly as the Lady Cougars lost 46-42 in overtime to slip into fourth place instead of a three-way tie for second.

Brittany Speed (15) and Amanda Kennedy (14) combined for 29 points for Bentworth (7-9, 3-4), which jumped out to an 11-3 first quarter lead and took a 29-23 advantage into the final eight minutes.

Aly Lee looked best for the Lady Cougars (7-9, 4-4) with 13 points. Lee's free throw sent the game into overtime.

Belle Vernon Area is home with Southmoreland today after dropping a 54-27 decision at Franklin Regional in a non-section contest.

Kristen Iovino poured in 24 points for the Lady Panthers (8-8), who broke open a 16-12 game by outscoring the Lady Leps, 24-11, in the next 16 minutes.

Jocelyn Connolly topped BVA (4-110 with eight points.

Yough snapped a three-game losing skid with its second victory over McGuffey, 38-33.

Allison Saccani's 11points were high for Yough (7-10).

The Lady Cougars host Bentworth today.

In Class A Section 3, Serra routed winless Frazier, 82-18.

Larissa Ellis had 10 points for the Lady Commodores (0-17, 0-6), who host Carmichaels today.

SPORTS DIGEST

Mon Valley Thunder down Valley Forge

After blowing a 2-0 first quarter lead,the Mon Valley Thunder rallied for a 5-4 win over Valley Forge Monday at the Ice Garden in the Class A Mid-Atlantic League.

Trailing 4-3 going into the final period, K.C. Hahey tied the game with his second goal with 4:58 gone and Jerry Cardinale scored the game-winner 25 seconds later.

Jim Stussy and Hahey gave the Thunder (8-13-3) an early 2-0 lead before the Freedom (7-16-1) tied the game on a pair of goals by Bill Haas.

Pat Serpico sandwiched two goals around a John Burton goal to put the Freedom ahead.

Gary Gagne had three assists for the Thunder against his former team, with Joey Olson adding two to give him 29 for the season.

Goalie Dustin MacDonald made 36 saves for the Thunder.

The Thunder will be home Saturday with Jamestown at 7:30 p.m.

Frazier loses to Carmichaels

The Frazier High boys' basketball team visits Geibel tonight after losing to visiting Carmichael, 67-38,in a non-section game Monday. Craig Rebovich (15) and Frank Bartolomucci (11) were high for the Commodores (1-14), who've lost nine in a row.

Monessen soccer signups scheduled

The Monessen Soccer Association is going to hold signups for the spring season on the next two Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Monessen High LGI Room.

Registration is $40 for under 6 and under 8 and $55 for all other age groups.

Uniforms will be $35 if need and must be paid at the registration.

All first year players must bring a copy of their birth certificate.

Those with questions should call Don Caterino (724-314-3586).

No registrations will be taken after Jan. 25.

LaRoche agrees to one-year contract

The Pittsburgh Pirates and first baseman Adam LaRoche avoided salary arbitration Monday night by agreeing to a one-year, $5 million contract.

LaRoche can earn an additional $150,000 in incentives if he reaches 635 plate appearances.

The 28-year-old LaRoche earned $3.2 million last yea when he batted .272 with 21 home runs and 88 RBI in his first season with the team.

LaRoche was in his second year of arbitration eligibility. Other arbitration-eligible players for the

Pirates are second baseman Freddy Sanchez, outfielder Xavier Nady, left-handed reliever John Grabow and third baseman Jose Bautista.

Any unsigned players and management will exchange salary figures Friday.

Trivia answer

Darelle Porter of Perry from 1987-91.

SPORTS HISTORY

30 Years Ago

Elizabeth Forward High's wrestlers won their fifth straight Big 10 Conference championship with 203 1/2 points. West Mifflin North was a distant second with 115 1/2 followed by Charleroi with 92.

Junior reserve Tom Weldon scored all five of his points in overtime to lead Mon Valley Catholic to a 30-28 win over Section 11-leading Greensburg Central Catholic.

Freshman Myra Bachuchin of Monessen won the all-around in leading Pitt to a gymnastic victory at West Virginia.

20 Years Ago

Charleroi downed Waynesburg, 58-52, behind Julie Claybaugh's 17 points.

Peachie Turner poured in 30 points in Monessen's 52-43 2in at West Greene.

Melissa Lazzari had 16 points in Ringgold's 43-38 loss at Laurel Highlands.

Tammi Rodriguez scored 16 points in Belle Vernon Area's 49-39 win over West Mifflin.

10 Years Ago

Riding a 15-game winning streak, Belle Vernon Area's boys (16-1) — coached by Phil Stewart — were ranked No. 1 in the state in Class AAA.

Monessen's Dave Mahalko was named Mon Valley County Club's new golf pro replacing Ray Graboski.

Monessen downed Jeannette, 62-44, for its eighth straight win behind David Stein's 15 points.

Vince Graham scored 16 points in Belle Vernon Area's 95-64 romp over Bethany College.

McFadden to enter NFL draft

By MIKE FITZPATRICK
AP Sports Writer

An NFL draft rich with running backs has a new star at the head of the class: Darren McFadden.

Runner-up for the Heisman Trophy the past two seasons, McFadden announced Monday he will skip his senior season at Arkansas — along with speedy backfield mate Felix Jones.

Wide receiver Mario Manningham (Michigan), linebacker Curtis Lofton (Oklahoma), quarterback Xavier Lee (Florida State) and offensive tackle Michael Oher (Mississippi) were other notable players who revealed they are turning pro. The deadline for underclassmen to declare for the draft is Tuesday.

Meanwhile, two-time All-America linebacker James Laurinaitis said he'll stay at Ohio State for his senior year and Virginia Tech cornerback Victor Harris reportedly changed his mind and will return to school next season.

After twice finishing second in Heisman voting, McFadden figures to be one of the first players taken in the April draft. He and Jones join an impressive group of junior running backs available that includes Texas' Jamaal Charles, Clemson's James Davis, Illinois' Rashard Mendenhall, Rutgers' Ray Rice, West Virginia's Steve Slaton, Central Florida's Kevin Smith and Oregon's Jonathan Stewart. Matt Forte of Tulane and Mike Hart of Michigan are two of the top seniors in the draft.

"I just want to go play in the NFL," McFadden said. "Whether I went No. 1 or dead last, it'll be the same feeling for me."

McFadden ran for 1,830 yards in 2007, second on the Southeastern Conference's single-season list. He is also second on the career list with 4,590 yards rushing.

McFadden rushed for more than 1,000 yards all three seasons at Arkansas. Jones did it the last two. They were part of a backfield that also included senior fullback Peyton Hillis, another NFL prospect.

McFadden's decision comes a week after he was involved in a "pretty rowdy scene" at a piano bar in Little Rock, when he was handcuffed by police and then released without charges.

SPORTS

NHL standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	26	15	3	55	110	101
Pittsburgh	26	16	3	55	133	120
Philadelphia	23	15	5	51	137	121
N.Y. Islanders	22	17	5	49	108	122
N.Y. Rangers	21	20	5	47	112	120

Northeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	29	11	4	62	155	123
Montreal	22	14	8	52	136	126
Boston	22	18	4	48	114	117
Buffalo	19	18	6	44	125	125
Toronto	16	21	8	40	124	149

Southeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	22	21	4	48	140	150
Atlanta	22	22	2	46	130	151
Florida	20	22	4	44	114	129
Washington	18	21	5	41	123	138
Tampa Bay	17	23	5	39	132	154

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	33	9	4	70	159	99
St. Louis	22	15	6	50	114	112
Columbus	21	18	6	48	114	113
Nashville	21	19	4	46	124	127
Chicago	20	21	4	44	127	136

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	26	17	2	54	126	125
Vancouver	25	16	4	54	119	105
Calgary	22	16	8	52	135	136
Colorado	24	18	3	51	129	128
Edmonton	21	21	4	46	122	134

Pacific Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	25	12	7	57	114	101
Dallas	25	17	5	55	137	123
Anaheim	24	17	6	54	121	122
Phoenix	23	20	1	47	116	120
Los Angeles	17	27	2	36	132	155

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.

Monday's Game

Pittsburgh 4, N.Y. Rangers 1

Today's Games

Ottawa at Washington, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Montreal at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Colorado at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Los Angeles at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
San Jose at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m.
Dallas at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

Penguins summary

N.Y. Rangers	0	0	1	— 1
Pittsburgh	3	0	1	— 4

First Period—1, Pittsburgh, Malkin 21 (Crosby, Gonchar), 3:31 (pp). 2, Pittsburgh, Malkin 22 (Crosby, Scuden), 6:33. 3, Pittsburgh, Gonchar 8 (Letang, Sykora), 16:48 (pp). Penalties—Orr, NYR, major (fighting), :07; Laraque, Pit, major (fighting), :07; Mara, NYR (holding), 2:56; Orr, NYR (hooking), 10:12; Drury, NYR (holding stick), 15:04; Rozsival, NYR (roughing), 16:37; Ruutu, Pit (hooking), 19:08.

Second Period—None. Penalties—Letang, Pit (tripping), 2:49; J.Staal, Pit (hooking), 12:12; Malkin, Pit (holding), 19:10.

Third Period—4, N.Y. Rangers, Jagr 13 (Gomez, Mara), 9:16 (pp). 5, Pittsburgh, Malkin 23 (Sydor), 19:36 (en). Penalties—Crosby, Pit (interference), 6:09; Malkin, Pit (interference), 8:20; Prucha, NYR, double minor (roughing), 19:58; Ruutu, Pit, double minor (roughing), 19:58; M.Staal, NYR, major (fighting), 19:58; Hall, Pit, major (fighting), 19:58.

Shots on Goal—N.Y. Rangers 14-17-13—44. Pittsburgh 12-2-9—23.

Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers 1 of 6; Pittsburgh 2 of 5.

Goalies—N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 19-17-4 (22 shots-19 saves). Pittsburgh, Conklin 10-0-1 (44-43).

A—17,000 (16,940). T—2:31.

Referees—Don Koharski, Bill McCreary. Linesmen—Mark Pare, Dan Schachte.

Sports moves

BASEBALL

American League

OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Traded OF Mark Kotsay and cash considerations to Atlanta for RHP Joey Devine and RHP Jamie Richmond.

TEXAS RANGERS—Designated INF Chris Shelton for assignment.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Traded 3B Troy Glaus to St. Louis for 3B Scott Rolen. Named Gary Cathcart manager for New Hampshire (EL); Clayton McCullough manager for Lansing (MWL); and Dave Pano manager for the GCL Blue Jays.

National League

MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Agreed to terms with OF Mike Cameron on a one-year contract.

NEW YORK METS—Named Tom Nieto first base coach.

SAN DIEGO PADRES—Named Randy Ready manager, Glenn Abbott pitching coach and Max Venable hitting coach for Portland (PCL); Bill Masse manager, Steve Webber pitching coach and Terry Kennedy hitting coach for San Antonio (Texas); Wally Whitehurst pitching coach and Shane Spencer hitting coach for Lake Elsinore (Cal); Tom Bradley pitching coach and Tom Tornincasa hitting coach for Fort Wayne (MWL); Dave Rajsich pitching coach and Darrell Sherman hitting coach for Eugene (NWL); Jose Flores manager, Bronswell Patrick pitching coach and Bob Skube hitting coach for Peoria (Arizona); and Tom Gamboa, Mike Couchee, Tony Muser, Gary Jones, Duffy Dyer, Dan Morrison and John Maxwell minor league roving instructors.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

CLEVELAND CAVALIERS—Signed Mike Brown, coach, to a two-year contract extension through the 2010-11 season.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Signed RB Thomas Clayton, WR Dominique Zeigler, WR Jerard Rabb, CB Markus Curry and TE Cooper Wallace to future contracts.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

ANAHEIM DUCKS—Recalled LW Drew Miller from Portland (AHL).

LOS ANGELES KINGS—Recalled D Peter Harrold and F Teddy Purcell from Manchester (AHL). Placed F Michael Cammalleri on injured reserve, retroactive to Dec. 22.

MINNESOTA WILD—Placed D Sean Hill on injured reserve.

ST. LOUIS BLUES—Assigned G Hannu Toivonen to Peoria (AHL). Recalled G Marek Schwarz from Peoria.

COLLEGE

CAPITAL—Named Jim Bickel football coach.

ELON—Agreed to terms with Pete Lembo, football coach, on a contract extension through the 2012 season.

Ramel Bradley and Kentucky will face Mississippi State at 9 p.m. on ESPN.

Sports dial

Today

Television

3 p.m. - ESPN2 - Australian Open, tennis, tape delay.

7 p.m. - ESPN - Ohio State at Michigan State, college basketball.

7 p.m. - ESPN2 - Creighton at Nothern Iowa, college basketball.

7 p.m. - Versus - Montreal at New York Islanders, hockey.

9 p.m. - ESPN - Kentucky at Mississippi State, college basketball.

11 p.m. - ESPN2 - Australian Open, tennis.

Radio

7:30 p.m. - WMBS (590) - Belle Vernon Area at Uniontown, high school basketball.

Wednesday

Television

3:30 a.m. - Australian Open, tennis.

Men's basketball Top 25

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 12, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	W-L	Pts	Pvs
1. N. Carolina(45)	17-0	1,765	1
2. Memphis(24)	15-0	1,739	2
3. Kansas(3)	16-0	1,678	3
4. UCLA	16-1	1,578	5
5. Georgetown	13-1	1,439	7
6. Tennessee	14-1	1,404	8
7. Duke	13-1	1,362	9
8. Washington St.	14-1	1,342	4
9. Indiana	14-1	1,215	10
10. Texas A&M	15-1	1,184	11
11. Michigan St.	14-2	988	6
12. Butler	16-1	985	14
13. Marquette	13-2	955	15
14. Dayton	14-1	793	17
15. Pittsburgh	14-2	670	20
16. Vanderbilt	16-1	658	13
17. Wisconsin	13-2	649	21
18. Mississippi	14-1	612	16
19. Texas	13-3	592	12
20. Xavier	14-3	395	24
21. Miami	14-1	286	25
22. Arizona St.	13-2	257	—
23. Rhode Island	15-2	196	22
24. Clemson	13-3	187	18
25. Villanova	11-3	140	19

Others receiving votes: Drake 75, Stanford 53, Florida 47, Saint Mary's, Calif. 41, Oregon 39, Louisville 16, West Virginia 15, Oklahoma 11, Illinois St. 7, Arizona 5, Arkansas 5, Baylor 4, Ohio St. 3, Connecticut 2, Gonzaga 2, Kent St. 2, Missouri 2, Kansas St. 1, South Alabama 1.

Women's basketball Top 25

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 12:

	W-L	Pts	Pvs
1. Connecticut(50)	15-0	1,250	1
2. Tennessee	14-1	1,192	2
3. North Carolina	16-1	1,133	3
4. Maryland	19-1	1,101	4
5. Rutgers	13-2	1,065	5
6. Baylor	14-1	950	8
7. Stanford	14-3	943	7
8. California	15-2	877	9
9. LSU	13-3	858	11
10. Duke	13-3	808	12
11. Oklahoma	10-3	759	6
12. Georgia	14-2	603	10
13. G. Washington	13-3	555	17
14. West Virginia	12-3	538	16
15. Old Dominion	12-3	504	18
16. Ohio St.	13-3	447	19
17. Notre Dame	13-3	431	14
18. Oklahoma St.	14-1	378	25
19. Texas A&M	12-4	349	13
20. Wyoming	14-1	301	21
21. Auburn	13-4	278	22
22. Pittsburgh	13-3	194	—
23. DePaul	12-3	177	24
24. Texas	12-4	154	15
25. Colorado	12-3	98	23

Others receiving votes: Arizona St. 55, Kansas St. 41, Georgia Tech 36, Syracuse 32, Illinois St. 26, Arkansas 25, Nebraska 24, Virginia 22, Utah 11, Michigan St. 7, Iowa St. 6, Vanderbilt 6, Dayton 3, Kansas 3, Louisville 3, Minnesota 3, Florida St. 2, Liberty 2.

Pitt lineups

PITTSBURGH - 69

Brown 1-5 0-1 2, Young 3-13 3-4 9, Blair 6-12 3-6 15, Benjamin 5-10 6-8 18, Ramon 6-9 2-2 18, Biggs 2-4 3-5 7, Wanamaker 0-3 0-0 0, McGhee 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 23-56 17-26 69.

GEORGETOWN - 60

Wallace 5-11 2-2 14, Summers 0-7 0-0 0, Hibbert 3-7 6-7 12, Freeman 4-8 0-0 8, Sapp 2-7 0-0 5, Macklin 5-5 0-0 10, Rivers 1-2 0-0 2, Crawford 0-0 2-2 2, Ewing Jr. 3-5 1-2 7. Totals 23-52 11-13 60.

Halftime—Pittsburgh 27-26.

3-Point Goals—Georgetown 3-20 (Wallace 2-7, Sapp 1-4, Ewing Jr. 0-1, Freeman 0-4, Summers 0-4), Pittsburgh 6-17 (Ramon 4-6, Benjamin 2-6, Wanamaker 0-1, Brown 0-1, Young 0-3). Fouled Out—Summers. Rebounds—Georgetown 33 (Hibbert 10), Pittsburgh 37 (Blair 9). Assists—Georgetown 15 (Summers 5), Pittsburgh 13 (Ramon 4). Total Fouls—Georgetown 21, Pittsburgh 12.

A—12,508.

College basketball

EAST

Cent. Connecticut St. 75, Long Island U. 59

Dartmouth at New Hampshire, ppd., snow

Pittsburgh 69, Georgetown 60

SOUTH

Alabama St. 69, Ark.-Pine Bluff 40

Alcorn St. 72, Grambling St. 68, OT

Charleston Southern 90, Radford 74

Coll. of Charleston 69, The Citadel 46

Delaware St. 66, Winston-Salem 59

Hampton 69, Florida A&M 63

Howard 54, Bethune-Cookman 53

MVSU 68, Alabama A&M 63

N. Carolina A&T 59, Coppin St. 56

Norfolk St. 71, Morgan St. 69

S. Carolina St. 68, Md.-Eastern Shore 60

Southern U. 85, Jackson St. 69

VMI 107, Coastal Carolina 100

MIDWEST

Kansas 85, Oklahoma 55

FAR WEST

Gonzaga 92, Pepperdine 57

Hawaii 65, San Jose St. 64

Loyola Marymount 73, Portland 68

WOMEN

EAST

Cent. Connecticut St. 72, St. Francis, Pa. 64

Holy Cross 60, Dartmouth 52

Monmouth, N.J. 66, Wagner 58

Quinnipiac 109, Mount St. Mary's, Md. 72

SOUTH

Alabama A&M 70, MVSU 59

Alabama St. 60, Ark.-Pine Bluff 55

Alcorn St. 68, Grambling St. 49

Chattanooga 77, UNC-Greensboro 50

Clemson 85, Wake Forest 73

Coll. of Charleston 59, Wofford 44

Delaware St. 49, Winston-Salem 27

ETSU 72, Campbell 53

Gardner-Webb 73, S.C.-Upstate 56

Georgia Southern 59, Furman 53

Hampton 80, Florida A&M 72

Howard 79, Bethune-Cookman 70

Jackson St. 58, Southern U. 47

Jacksonville 61, Kennesaw St. 53

Maryland 85, Duke 70

Morgan St. 87, Norfolk St. 54

N. Carolina A&T 61, Coppin St. 50

North Florida 53, Mercer 52, OT

S. Carolina St. 65, Md.-Eastern Shore 62

W. Carolina 73, Elon 61

MIDWEST

IUPUI 59, N. Dakota St. 54

Indiana 66, Purdue 54

Oakland, Mich. 93, Centenary 43

Oral Roberts 81, IPFW 62

W. Illinois 67, S. Dakota St. 60

SOUTHWEST

Arkansas St. 70, Middle Tennessee 68

NBA standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	30	6	.833	—
Toronto	20	17	.541	10 1/2
New Jersey	18	19	.486	12 1/2
Philadelphia	14	24	.368	17
New York	10	26	.278	20

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	23	16	.590	—
Washington	20	16	.556	1 1/2
Atlanta	16	17	.485	4
Charlotte	14	23	.378	8
Miami	8	28	.222	13 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	28	10	.737	—
Cleveland	19	18	.514	8 1/2
Indiana	17	22	.436	11 1/2
Chicago	14	21	.400	12 1/2
Milwaukee	15	23	.395	13

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	25	11	.694	—
Dallas	26	12	.684	—
New Orleans	25	12	.676	1/2
Houston	20	18	.526	6
Memphis	10	27	.270	15 1/2

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	23	14	.622	—
Denver	22	14	.611	1/2
Utah	22	17	.564	2
Seattle	9	28	.243	14
Minnesota	5	31	.139	17 1/2

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	26	11	.703	—
Phoenix	26	11	.703	—
Golden State	22	16	.579	4 1/2
Sacramento	15	21	.417	10 1/2
L.A. Clippers	10	23	.303	14

Monday's Games

Charlotte 119, Denver 116
Washington 88, Boston 83
Portland 99, New Jersey 73
San Antonio 89, Philadelphia 82
Utah 98, Milwaukee 87
Sacramento 122, Dallas 120
L.A. Lakers 123, Seattle 121, OT

Today's Games

Chicago at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Denver at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Mid-Atlantic Hockey League

	W	L	T	Pts
Indiana	22	1	0	44
Wooster	13	10	2	28
Jamestown	10	14	0	20
Mon Valley	8	13	3	19
Valley Forge	7	16	1	15

Monday

Mon Valley 5, Valley Forge 4

Friday

Indiana at Jamestown

Saturday

Jamestown at Mon Valley (7:30 p.m.)
Indiana at Valley Forge

Sunday

Valley Forge at Mon Valley (2:30 p.m.)
Wooster at Indiana

NFL playoffs

Conference Championships

Sunday

AFC

San Diego at New England, 3 p.m. (CBS)

NFC

N.Y. Giants at Green Bay, 6:30 p.m. (FOX)

High school boys' basketball standings

Class AAA

	Sec. 4 W	Sec. 4 L	Overall W	Overall L
Chartiers Valley	5	0	15	1
Keystone Oaks	4	1	9	9
South Park	2	3	5	10
Ringgold	2	3	5	13
Trinity	2	3	4	10
McGuffey	0	5	3	11

Monday

Thomas Jefferson 71, Keystone Oaks 69
Trinity 64, Southmoreland 30

Today

West Mifflin at Ringgold
Southmoreland at McGuffey

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
Belle Vernon Area	4	1	11	4
Steel Valley	3	2	11	4
West Mifflin	3	2	7	7
Thomas Jefferson	3	2	5	9
Yough	2	3	6	9
Elizabeth Forward	0	5	3	13

Monday

Peters Twp. 62, Steel Valley 59

Today

Belle Vernon Area at Uniontown
Elizabeth Forward at Laurel Highlands
Yough at Mt. Pleasant
Thomas Jefferson at South Park

Class AA

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
Monessen	8	0	13	4
Washington	7	1	13	4
Burgettstown	6	2	12	3
Brownsville	4	4	8	8
C-Houston	3	5	9	8
Charleroi	3	5	7	9
Waynesburg	1	7	3	11
Beth-Center	0	8	3	14

Monday

Jeff-Morgan 56, Beth-Center 54

Today

C-Houston at Monessen
Waynesburg at Charleroi
Brownsville at Washington
Beth-Center at Burgettstown

Class A

	Sec. 2 W	Sec. 2 L	Overall W	Overall L
California	5	0	10	4
Carmichaels	4	1	11	3
Mapletown	2	2	8	7
Geibel	2	2	3	9
Jeff-Morgan	1	4	5	12
West Greene	0	5	1	12

Monday

Clay-Batelle, W. Va. 67, Mapletown 45

Today

Mapletown at Wilkinsburg

	Sec. 3 W	Sec. 3 L	Overall W	Overall L
Serra	7	0	13	1
Bentworth	5	2	10	4
Clairton	4	3	6	8
Cornell	3	3	9	6
Sacred Heart	3	4	4	12
Avella	2	5	7	9
Frazier	0	7	1	14

Monday

Carmichaels 67, Frazier 38
Avella 65, West Greene 39

Tuesday

Cornell at Clairton
Sacred Heart at Bentworth
Serra at Avella
Frazier at Geibel

High school girls' basketball standings

Class AAA

	Sec. 4 W	Sec. 4 L	Overall W	Overall L
Ringgold	5	0	12	4
Chartiers Valley	4	1	10	6
West Allegheny	3	2	8	8
McGuffey	2	3	7	9
Keystone Oaks	1	4	4	11
Waynesburg	0	5	4	12

Monday

Elizabeth Forward 52, Ringgold 49
Thomas Jefferson 52, Keystone Oaks 35

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
West Mifflin	5	0	13	3
Elizabeth Forward	4	1	14	3
Thomas Jefferson	3	2	7	10
Steel Valley	2	3	8	8
Belle Vernon Area	1	4	4	11
Yough	0	5	7	10

Monday

Franklin Regional 54, Belle Vernon Area 27
Yough 38, McGuffey 33

Today

Southmoreland at Belle Vernon Area
Derry at Elizabeth Forward
West Mifflin at Franklin Regional
Brownsville at Steel Valley
Bentworth at Yough

Class AA

	Sec. 5 W	Sec. 5 L	Overall W	Overall L
Washington	8	0	16	0
Brownsville	5	3	13	5
Beth-Center	5	3	11	5
Charleroi	4	4	7	9
Bentworth	3	4	8	8
C-Houston	1	6	5	13
Burgettstown	1	6	3	15

Monday

Bentworth 46, Charleroi 42
Beth-Center 39, Burgettstown 31
Washington 62, Brownsville 45

Class A

	Sec. 2 W	Sec. 2 L	Overall W	Overall L
Geibel	5	0	11	5
Carmichaels	4	1	7	9
Mapletown	3	2	10	4
California	2	3	5	9
West Greene	1	4	1	14
Jeff-Morgan	0	5	1	14

Monday

Carmichaels 52, C-Houston 48

Today

East Allegheny at California

	Sec. 3 W	Sec. 3 L	Overall W	Overall L
Monessen	7	0	17	0
Serra	5	2	9	4
Clairton	4	2	7	5
Avella	2	3	7	7
Trinity Christian	1	6	4	11
Frazier	0	6	0	17

Monday

Monessen 75, Steel Valley 51
Serra 82, Frazier 18

Today

Carmichaels at Frazier
Serra at Quigley

High school basketball lineups

GIRLS

Monessen - 75

Minardi, 5-0-10; Chukwuedo, 7-6-20; Mornak, 3-0-7; Stepoli, 6-3-15; Diggs, 7-1-15; Beveridge, 2-0-6; Anderson, 0-0-0; Turner, 1-0-2. Totals: FG-31, F-10(15), T-75.

Steel Valley - 51

Feltz, 9-3-22; Dunmire, 5-0-14; Sakanich, 3-0-7; McPherson, 1-0-2; Johnston, 1-0-2; Fisher, 1-0-2; Andreyo, 0-0-0; Mangold, 0-0-0. Totals: FG-20, F-3(5), T-51.

Score by quarters:

Steel Valley	13	11	19	8	- 51
Monessen	21	22	17	15	- 75

Three-pointers: Steel Valley - Dunmire 4, Feltz, Sakanich; Monessen - Beveridge 2, Mornak.

Elizabeth Forward - 52

Hirnyk, 5-0-10; Ohm, 1-2-5; Sanderson, 7-7-23; Pearce, 1-3-5; Halaszynski, 0-0-0; Sandin, 0-0-0; Hawkins, 3-3-9; Martincic, 0-0-0; Urbaniak, 0-0-0. Totals: FG - 17, F - 15 (20), T - 52.

Ringgold - 49

Resanovich, 2-0-4; Schartner, 5-1-13; Affinito, 3-5-14; Leach, 2-2-6; Selby, 2-2-6; Melzer, 2-0-6; Pantojas, 0-0-0; Ladley, 0-0-0. Totals: FG - 16, F - 10 (16), T - 31.

Score by quarterss:

Ringogld	16	10	12	11 -	49
Elizabeth	12	10	11	19 -	52

Three-pointers: Elizabeth - Sanderson 2, Ohm. Ringgold - Affinito 3, Schartner 2, Melzer 2.

Bentworth - 46

Kennedy, 6-2-14; Speed, 5-4-15; Hamstra, 3-2-8; Robker, 0-1-1; Marshalek, 0-0-0; Behanna, 2-0-4; Ritzer, 2-0-4. Totals: FG - 18, F - 9 (19), T - 46.

Charleroi - 42

Shannon, 4-0-8; Lee, 3-7-13; Sidary, 3-0-6; Tarpley, 0-1-1; Samoda, 0-1-1; Thorne, 1-4-6; Helster, 0-1-1; Iacovino, 3-0-6. Totals; FG - 14, F - 14 (27), T - 42.

Score by quarters:

Bentworth	11	5	13	8	9	-	46
Charleroi	3	6	14	14	5	-	42

Three-pointers: Bentworth - Speed.

Yough - 38

Gilkey, 3-2-8; Shupe, 4-0-8; Saccani, 4-3-1; Rossi, 1-7-9; Edwards, 0-2-2. Totals: FG - 12, F - 14 (20), T - 38.

McGuffey - 33

Czulewicz, 2-4-8; Schober, 3-8-14; Smith, 0-1-1; Wigman, 1-0-2; Sismondo, 3-0-6; Defliere, 1-0-2. Totals: FG - 10, F - 13 (19), T - 33.

Score by quarters:

McGuffey	5	6	8	14 -	33
Yough	6	11	13	8 -	38

Serra - 82

Gwosden, 7-15; Stewart, 6-2-15; McGann, 2-5-9; Penn, 1-1-3; T. Gold, 2-0-5; Gross, 3-0-6; Griffiths, 1-0-2; A. Gold, 2-0-4; Bartko, 5-0-10; Haberman, 5-0-13. Totals: FG - 34, F - 8 (13), T - 82.

Frazier - 18

Keebler, 0-0-0; Howser, 0-0-0; Ellis, 5-0-10; Pato, 0-2-2; Traynor, 1-0-2; Wilson, 2-0-4. Totals: FG - 8, F - 2 (6), T - 18.

Score by qurters:

Frazier	4	6	4	4 -	18
Serra	28	27	9	18 -	82

Three-pointers: Serra - Haberman 3, Stewart, T. Gold, Gwosden.

BOYS

Carmichaels - 67

McCombs, 8-4-20; Lapkowicz, 8-1-17; Hyatt, 3-1-7; Ganocy, 5-5-15; Gasti, 1-0-2;Greene, 1-0-2; Musgrove, 2-0-4. Totals: FG - 28, F - 11 (18), T - 67.

Frazier - 38

Rebovich, 3-9-15; Bartolomucci, 5-1-11; Smith, ,1-0-2; Rock, 2-0-5; Thompson, 0-5-5. Totals: FG - 11, F - 15 (18), T - 38.

Score by quarters:

Carmichaels	18	17	13	19 -	67
Frazier	10	11	9	8 -	38

Three-pointers: Frazier - Rock.

Latest Line

NFL

Favorite	Points		Underdog
Sunday, Jan 20			
Conference Championships			
N. ENGLAND	14	(48)	San Diego
GREEN BAY	7	(42)	NY Giants

NBA

Favorite	Points	Underdog
ORLANDO	7	Chicago
ATLANTA	2	Denver
DETROIT	9 1/2	Toronto
Washington	3	NEW YORK
Golden State	7 1/2	MINNESOTA
Cleveland	2	MEMPHIS
HOUSTON	9 1/2	Philadelphia
Phoenix	7	LA CLIPPERS

Penguins
(FROM PAGE ONE)

give him a league-high 42. The two connected again 3 minutes later to make it 2-0 on Malkin's 22nd goal. Crosby, the defending NHL scoring champion, tied Tampa Bay's Vincent Lecavalier for the league lead with 63 points.

Pittsburgh made it 3-0 with a goal while on a two-man advantage with 3:12 left in the opening period. It took only 11 seconds for Gonchar to blast a slap shot from the point past Lundqvist.

"Everything's easier when you've got a three-goal lead," said Conklin, who set a career high for saves. "You have a little leeway."

Led by Conklin, Pittsburgh protected that advantage but gave up a lot of shots on goal. The Rangers held a 17-2 advantage in shots in the second period.

It wasn't until midway through the third that Jagr, a former Penguin, broke up Conklin's bid for his third shutout in only 11 starts.

While on the power play, Jagr took a pass from Scott Gomez behind the net, attempted a wraparound, picked up his own rebound and scored.

Malkin had a few chances for the hat trick before scoring into an empty net with 24 seconds remaining.

New York has lost six of seven, and four in a row on the road.

"Every win's important, but certainly the divisional games are the most important ones," Conklin said.

Monessen
(FROM PAGE ONE)

lead. Also hitting in double figures for Monessen was Breanne Minardi with 10 points.

Steel Valley was led by Erin Feltz and Brittany Dunmire with 22 and 14 points, respectively.

"This was a nice win, but it was only an exhibition," Corley warned. "We still have a big game with Clairton (at home Thursday)."

NOTES: Before the game, Corley presented Kelly Mornak with a basketball in honor of her 1,000th point, which she scored Saturday against Trinity Christian. Mornak scored just seven points last night, but she had six rebounds and six assists ... Stepoli had 10 rebounds, four assists and four blocked shots while Diggs, starting place of injured Melissa Popovich, grabbed six rebounds ... Popovich (wrist) dressed, but did not play ... Chukwuedo had seven assists and five steals while Minardi had six rebounds ... Dunmire hit four three-pointers for Steel Valley.

Ex-pitcher Cardwell dies

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (AP) — Don Cardwell, who pitched a no-hitter and helped the New York Mets win the 1969 World Series, died Monday. He was 72.

Cardwell died Monday morning, said Richard Puryear, a spokesman for Salem Funerals & Cremations. The cause of death was not immediately known.

"He was a tremendous mentor to the young guys on our staff," Mets Hall of Famer Tom Seaver said in a statement through team spokesman Jay Horwitz. "When he said something, you listened. He was the ultimate professional on and off the field. Just a tremendous, tremendous guy — and a big part of everything we accomplished that year."

Cardwell pitched for five major league teams from 1957-70. He finished 102-138 with a 3.92 ERA and 1,211 strikeouts. He threw 17 shutouts, earned seven saves — and hit 15 home runs.

The right-hander was 8-10 with a 3.01 ERA for the Miracle Mets in '69. He pitched in 30 games, making 21 starts.

"I just remember him as one of the real tough guys who had a great second half in 1969," Mets teammate Ron Swoboda said. "Just old-school, man. He was old school back then!"

After beginning his career with the Philadelphia Phillies, Cardwell was traded to the Chicago Cubs in May 1960. Two days after the deal, he tossed a no-hitter against the St. Louis Cardinals.

Cardwell's best season with the Cubs was 1961, when he went 15-14 with a 3.82 ERA and a career-high 156 strikeouts. He was traded to the Cardinals the following year, but was dealt to Pittsburgh a month later without ever pitching for St. Louis.

He spent 1963-66 with the Pirates, going 13-10 with a 3.18 ERA in 1965, before he was traded to the Mets in December 1966. In 1969, he was part of a New York rotation that included Seaver, Jerry Koosman and Gary Gentry.

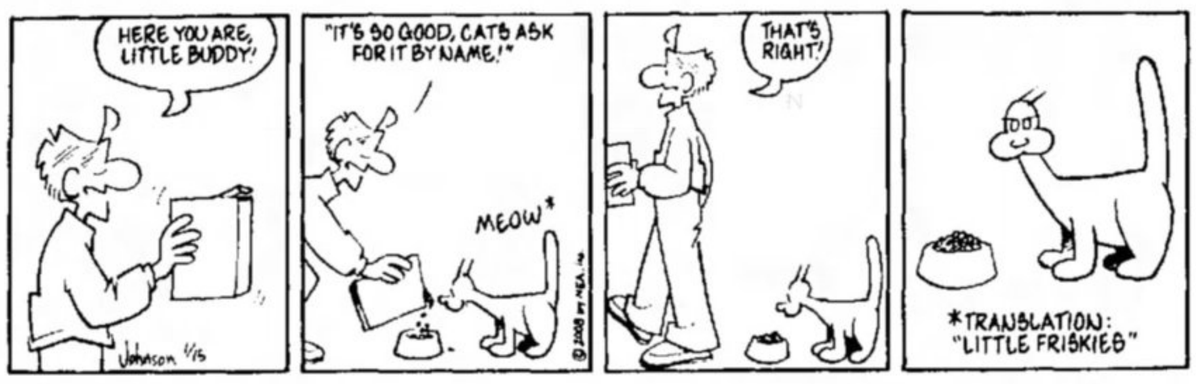
COMICS

CATHY® by Cathy Guisewite

WHY YOGA, PEOPLE? BECAUSE YOGA CREATES INNER PEACE.
INNER PEACE PROMOTES GOOD HEALTH... GOOD HEALTH REDUCES ABSENTEEISM... REDUCED ABSENTEEISM BOOSTS PRODUCTIVITY...
AND BOOSTED PRODUCTIVITY MEANS PROFIT! PROFIT! PROFIT!
...WHICH, OF COURSE, CREATES MORE INNER PEACE...
WOW.
ALWAYS INSPIRING TO SEE A MASTER AT WORK.

GARFIELD® by Jim Davis

ARLO and JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson



Classic PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz

MONTY® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail: JimMeddick@aol.com

NORMALLY WHAT I LIKE IS THE STRONG, SILENT TYPE.
WELL, I GUESS I CAN BE SILENT, BUT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT STRONG...
THAT'S WHAT THE WEIGHTS ARE FOR.
WEIGHTS? BUT I...
SHHH.
OK. YOU GOT A BLISTER. SO? WHAT?
I WAS PANTOMIMING A REQUEST FOR A BAND-AID AND SOME NEOSPORIN.

HI & LOIS® by Mort Walker and Dick Browne

I WANT TO MARRY SOMEONE JUST LIKE DADDY!
THAT'S NICE, DEAR.
BUT SEE IF YOU CAN FIND A MAN WHO'S A LITTLE HANDIER AROUND THE HOUSE!
1-15

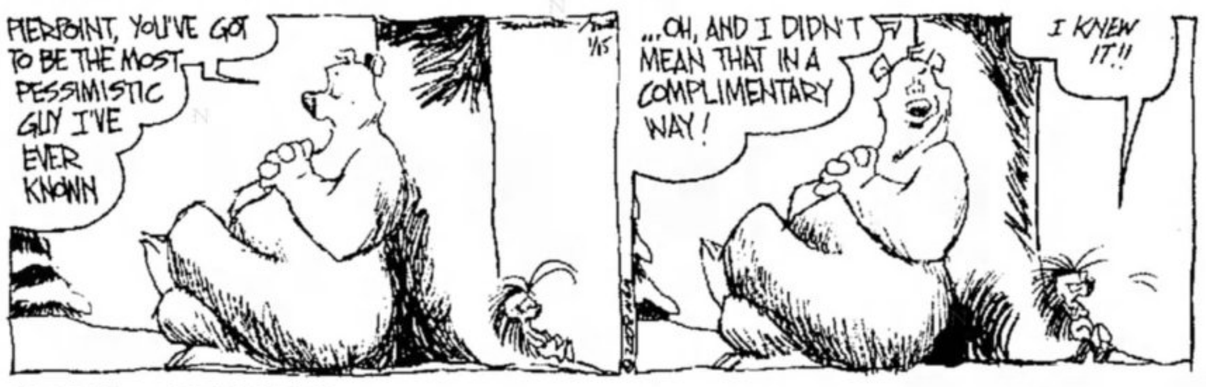
BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker

WHY IS COOKIE ON THE ROOF?
HE'S HURT BECAUSE NOBODY LIKED HIS BUNNY DROP SOUP
1-15
THE CRACKERS WERE DELICIOUS
GREG MORT WALKER

BORN LOSER® by Art Sansom

DO YOU FEEL YOU ARE ABLE TO HANDLE CRITICISM GRACEFULLY?
THAT DEPENDS.
ON WHAT?
ON WHETHER I AM THE CRITICIZER OR THE CRITICIZEE!

GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr


PIERPOINT, YOU'VE GOT TO BE THE MOST PESSIMISTIC GUY I'VE EVER KNOWN
1/15
...OH, AND I DIDN'T MEAN THAT IN A COMPLIMENTARY WAY!
I KNEW IT!!

COW AND BOY® by Mark Leiknes

IF "JURASSIC PARK: THE MUSICAL" IS GOING TO WORK, IT'LL TAKE A TEAM EFFORT.
NOW THAT MEANS ALL OF US. SO LOOK ALIVE, WE OPEN IN THREE HOURS.
SHOULDN'T WE BE REHEARSING?
NOT YET, I'M STILL WRITING THE OPENING NUMBER.
ANYONE KNOW WHAT RHYMES WITH PACHYCEPHALOSAURID?

FRANK and ERNEST® by Bob Thaves

YOU'RE ONLY YOUNG ONCE --- BUT APPARENTLY THERE'S NO LIMIT ON CHILDISH.
THAVES 1-15
E-mail: ThavesOne@aol.com
©2008 Thaves / Dist. by NEA, Inc.
www.frankandernest.com

HERMAN® by Jim Unger

KIT'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright

kitncarlyle@comcast.net
I DON'T CARE WHAT SHE SAYS! THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS "FINDERS KEEPERS" WHEN IT COMES TO CATNIP MICE!
1-15
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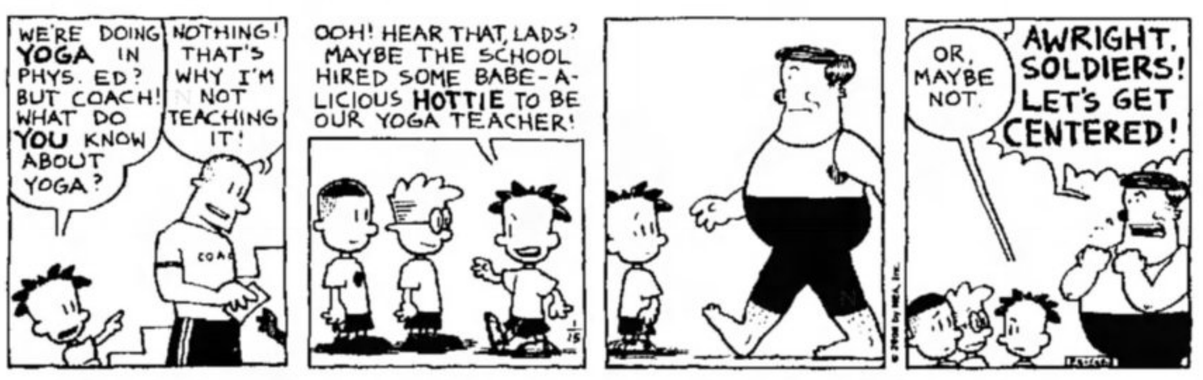
www.comics.com

SOUP TO NUTZ™ by Rick Stromoski

A RECENT STUDY SHOWS THAT WOMEN HAVE BETTER LISTENING SKILLS THAN MEN...
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?
WHAT DO I THINK OF WHAT?
©2008 Rick Stromoski Dist by NEA, Inc. www.comics.com
—STROMOSKI—

BIG NATE® by Lincolin Peirce


WE'RE DOING YOGA IN PHYS. ED? BUT COACH! WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT YOGA?
NOTHING! THAT'S WHY I'M NOT TEACHING IT!
OOH! HEAR THAT, LADS? MAYBE THE SCHOOL HIRED SOME BABE-A-LICIOUS HOTTIE TO BE OUR YOGA TEACHER!
OR, MAYBE NOT.
AWRIGHT, SOLDIERS! LET'S GET CENTERED!

ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue

Y'KNOW, OOOLA, EXPERTS SAY THAT IF A WOMAN IS SINGLE, ESPECIALLY AT YOUR AGE, IT'S BECAUSE SHE'S BEIN' TOO PICKY!
PERHAPS IF YOU LOWERED YOUR STANDARDS JUST A LITTLE, I MIGHT START LOOKIN' PRETTY GOOD T'YOU!
EARLIE OOP, IF I HAD NO STANDARDS AT ALL, YOU STILL WOULDN'T LOOK GOOD TO ME!!
1-15
DAVE GRAUE

MARK TRAIL® by Jack Elrod

WE'VE GOT TO STOP TRAIL BEFORE HE TELLS THE POLICE ABOUT MY CONFESSION...HE HAS TO MAKE A PORTAGE BEFORE HE REACHES THE COMMUNITY, THAT WILL SLOW HIM DOWN...
I'LL GET ONE OF THE BOYS TO TAKE ME TO THE HOSPITAL...BRICE CAN FLY THE PLANE, YOU GO WITH HIM AND SOMEHOW STOP TRAIL...AFTER THE OPERATION WE WILL BE TOGETHER WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS!
DON'T WORRY, HONEY, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF MR. TRAIL!
JACK ELROD

"Want me to get you a wig for your birthday?"

The Valley Independent Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Crowd around
4 Exultation
8 Santa — winds
11 Turmoil
12 Chalet feature
13 Sand mandala builder
15 — and yang
16 Potatoes style
18 Hornless cattle
20 Pointless
21 RV haven
23 Entreat
24 By heart
27 Zest for life
29 Movie studio
32 Cheers for toreros
33 Loud arguments
34 401(k) cousin
35 Pub pint
36 Invoice
37 Blue-pencil
38 River tamer
39 Hull plank
40 Pocket change
41 Mr. Mineo
42 Mother rabbit
44 Atlas, e.g.
47 Feminine principle
51 Exceptions to the rule
55 Yak
56 A law — itself
57 Lazing about
58 Royal symbol
59 Octopus abode
60 Throne
61 VCR maker

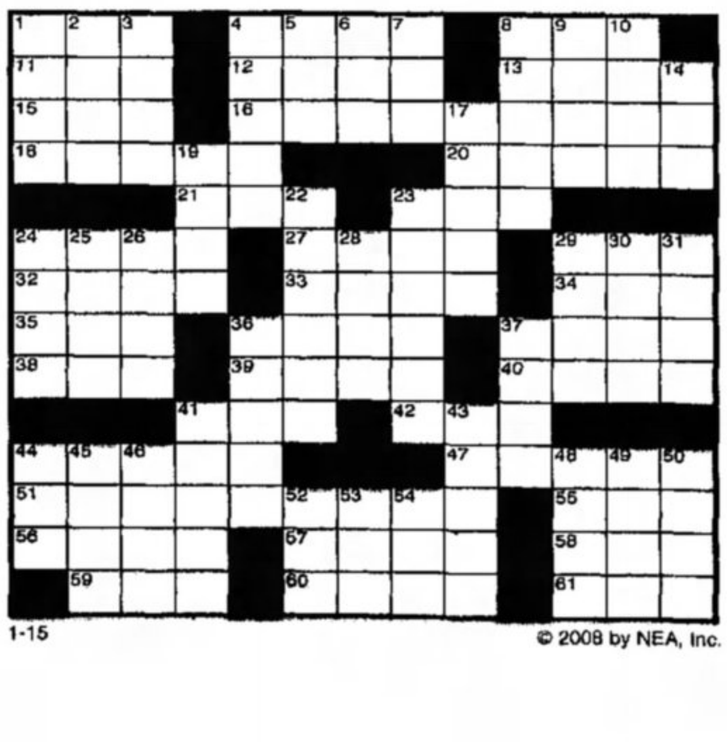
DOWN

1 Empire builder
2 Thor's father
3 Ringing sound
4 Mural undercoat
5 Resin
6 Actress — Longoria
7 Long fish
8 Moving right —
9 Wine valley
10 Hymn finale
14 Juice-based drink
17 Mortgages
19 Hawaiian strings
22 Kind of survey
23 Cried noisily
24 Pothole locale
25 Earthen jar
26 Be rife with
28 Recline lazily
29 Dress length
30 Bleak
31 Chess win
36 Safari leader
37 Blissful spot
41 Pago Pago locale
43 Caravan halts
44 T, in Athens
45 Motor lodges
46 Big handbag
48 Operatic prince
49 — Almond of Soft Cell
50 Mr. Eban
52 Pot top
53 Wyo. neighbor
54 Yalie

Answer to Previous Puzzle

G	A	M			N	A	B			Y	E	P
O	U	I		F	O	X	E	D		A	L	I
A	D	S		I	R	E	N	E		W	I	T
L	I	O	N	E	S	S		M	Y	N	A	H
			O	R	E		K	O	I			
S	A	S	S	Y		S	U	S	P	E	C	T
A	S	H	Y		V	I	N			R	H	O
R	I	A			E	R	G		E	R	O	S
I	N	Q	U	I	R	E		G	A	S	P	S
			S	O	B		H	E	R			
Y	E	M	E	N		K	E	E	N	E	S	T
E	R	A		I	C	O	N	S		Y	O	U
A	I	D		C	R	A	N	E		R	I	B
S	E	E			O	N	A			E	L	S

GET MORE in the new "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" series from Quill Driver. **Call 800-605-7176.**



1-15

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NEWS

Home sales dip in 5-county region

Latest numbers continue a 10-month slide that included an almost 14 percent drop in December.

By RON DaPARMA
For The Valley Independent
rdaparma@tribweb.com

Home sales in the Pittsburgh region fell nearly 7 percent in 2007, compared to the year before, continuing a 10-month slide that included an almost 14 percent drop in December, according to a report issued Monday.

Despite the drop in sales, the average price of homes sold in the five-county market rose about 3 percent for the year, figures from RealStats, a South Side-based real estate information company, show. The trend in rising prices slowed in December.

There were 31,139 sales in 2007, a drop of 6.6 percent from 33,338 sales in 2006 in the five counties, the report showed.

That included a total of 2,201 sales in December, down from 2,557, or drop of 13.9 percent.

The December sales decrease followed a 14.8 percent drop in November 2007 sales vs. November of the previous year. December was the 10th consecutive month that monthly sales totals in 2007 trailed 2006 numbers.

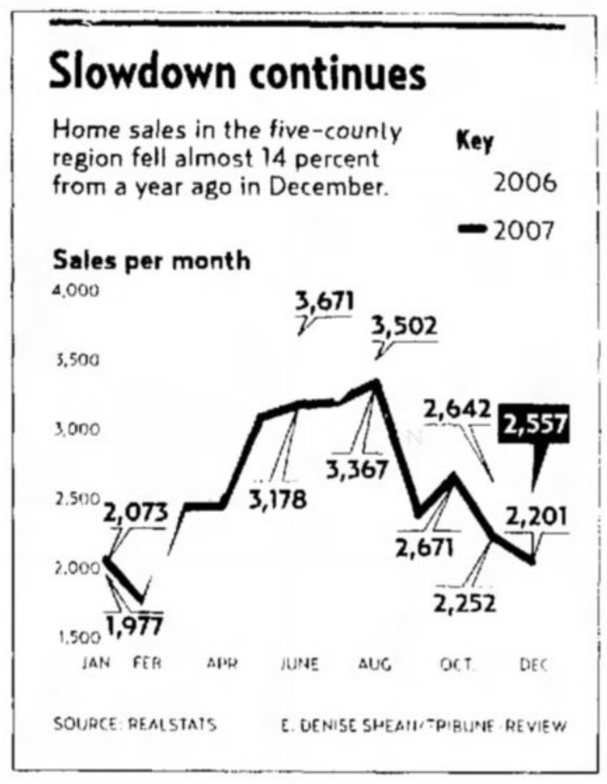
"We can only hope this trend does not continue too long," said Daniel A. Murrer, vice president of RealStats, which tracks sales valued at $10,000 and more through deed recordings in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Washington and Westmoreland counties.

While sales in the region have been down, the decline hasn't been as severe as the nation as a whole, which has suffered because of the national real estate and mortgage crisis, experts say.

The National Association of Realtors expects that, when final numbers are available later this month, they will show existing home sales in the United States to be off about 12.8 percent in 2007.

"The number of sales was off, at or near 16 percent in Allegheny, Washington and Westmoreland Counties, and 9.6 percent in Beaver County," RealStats said in its report for December. Butler County's sales remained unchanged.

RealStats said the December sales decline resulted in a loss of $50.2 million in real estate revenue for the five-county region in December alone, including $32.3 million in Allegheny County, slightly more than $4 million in Beaver County, $8.1 million in Washington County, and $5.7 million in Westmoreland County.



Planning panel approves plans for arena, casino

Angry protests took place during a seven-hour meeting of the Pittsburgh Planning Commission.

By JEREMY BOREN
For The Valley Independent
jboren@tribweb.com

Adamant and sometimes angry protests didn't stop the Pittsburgh Planning Commission from voting to approve controversial plans for the Penguins' hockey arena and Majestic Star Casino.

During a seven-hour meeting Monday, the commission heard from at least 30 Hill District activists who pleaded with board members to delay a vote on the $290 million arena's master plan until Pittsburgh and Allegheny County officials sign a legally binding community-benefits agreement to spur new housing and commerce in the Hill District.

The eight-member commission voted 5-3 in favor of the Penguins' plan for the 18,000-seat arena, a move that brought boos and shouts from members of the One Hill Coalition, a group of Hill residents, labor union members and business owners that has threatened to picket the arena construction site if a community agreement isn't signed.

"I feel like the community is really disappointed," said Khari Mosley, campaign organizer for Pittsburgh UNITED, a North Side pro-labor group that financially supports One Hill. "A lot of people wanted a delay, but that didn't carry the day."

Nettie Pelton of Beltzhoover questioned the lack of racial diversity on the Planning Commission and asked for a delay in the vote until a community-benefits agreement is signed.

"You're not including the people ... we are what you need to keep this city going," said Pelton, who wore red along with many others as a show of solidarity. "Who put all of you on the board? All of you white people on the board?"

Mayor Luke Ravenstahl and Allegheny County Chief Executive Dan Onorato have been negotiating with One Hill Coalition members to complete an agreement that would commit $2 million from the city and Penguins to help bring a grocery store to the Hill District, create job training and youth services programs and guarantee arena jobs to Hill District residents.

"We're 90 percent of the way there," Ravenstahl said before the Planning Commission's vote.

> "You're not including the people ... we are what you need to keep this city going. Who put all of you on the board? All of you white people on the board?"
>
> **NETTIE PELTON**
> **Beltzhoover resident**

"We're close to ultimately reaching a community-benefits agreement."

William Sittig, a Penguins attorney with the law firm Sittig Cortese & Wratcher, said the commission had little choice but to approve the master plan because a community-benefits agreement isn't among the criteria city planners can factor into a vote.

"There was very little latitude for them," said Sittig, who attended the hearing. "The Penguins did everything they had to do."

The Planning Commission, however, gave its approval with a set of 14 conditions that require the Penguins to develop detailed game-day plans for handling traffic, police security, pedestrian crosswalks on Centre and Fifth avenues and Washington Place and public transportation access.

Commission member Barbara K. Mistick said she wasn't satisfied with the amount of parking that will be available.

The Penguins plan to build a 500-space garage that could be expanded later to 780 spaces, but the 2,400 spaces available at the 16,900-seat Mellon Arena eventually will disappear once the land is developed, she said.

"Do the math. Now you've got 18,000 seats and you're giving up 2,400 parking spaces," Mistick said.

Despite her misgivings, Mistick voted in favor of the plan along with E. Paul Dick, Monte Rabner, Todd E. Reidbord and Mary Lou Simon. Voting against were Chairwoman Wrenna L. Watson, Barbara Ernsberger and Lynne Garfinkel.

The arena still must receive approval of a project development plan and other clearances before construction can begin. The Penguins hope to open the arena for the 2010-11 season.

Separately, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve the shell design of the $450 million Majestic Star Casino over the objections of representatives from the Riverlife Task Force, a nonprofit that has argued the casino's towering garage will ruin the look of the North Shore along the Ohio River.

The 119-foot garage would have 3,800 spaces and be twice the size of the 60-foot casino just west of the Carnegie Science Center.

Clifford B. Levine, an attorney for the Riverlife Task Force, said his group is considering an appeal based on the belief that the garage's height violates the city's zoning code.

"There were zoning code amendments made to ensure our waterfront would not be subject to these massive structures," Levine said. "We're hopeful that we can proceed in that spirit of design."

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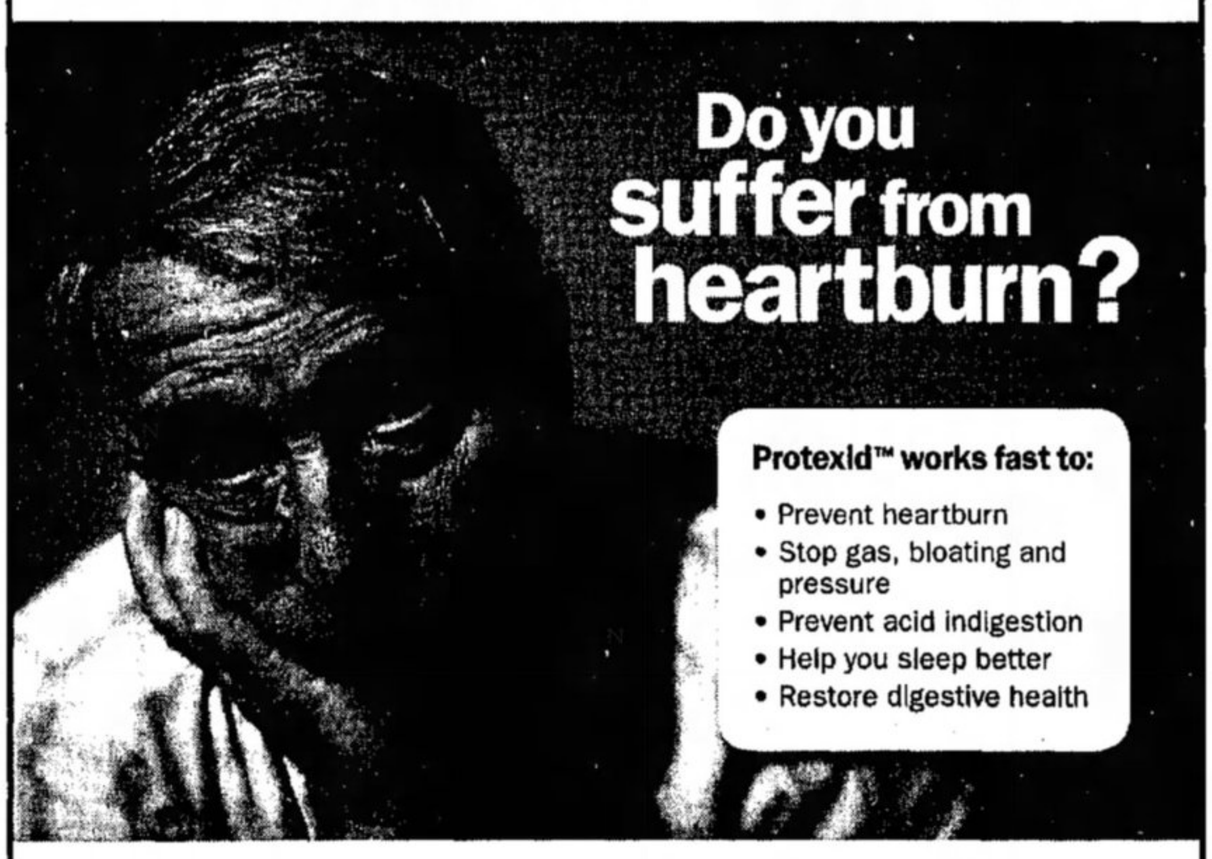
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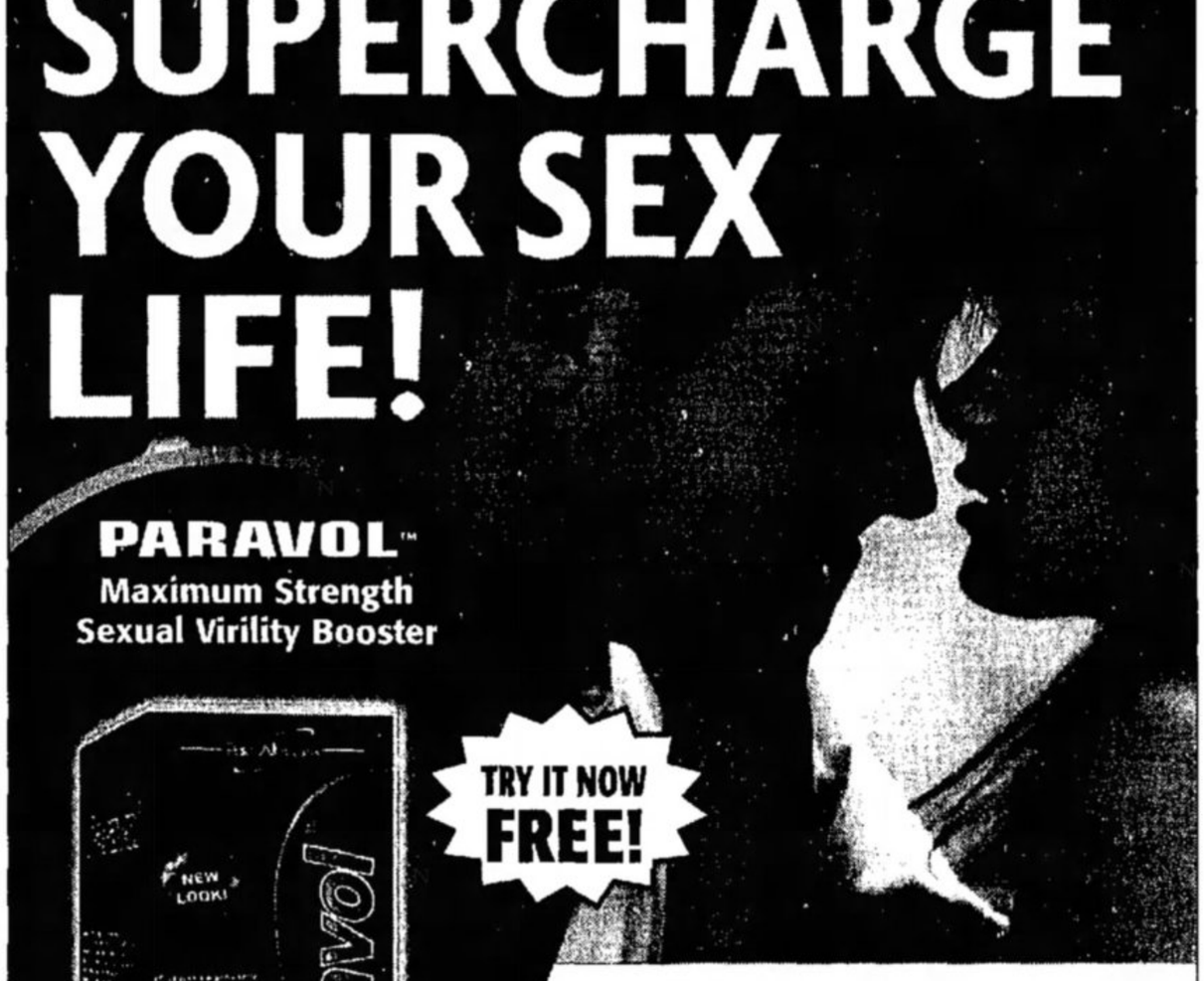

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FEATURES

ENGAGEMENTS

Lancas-Manley

Kristen Lancas & John Manley

Eugene and Paula Lancas, of Carroll Township, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kristen, to John Manley, son of Robert Manley and Mary Manley, both of Greensburg.

Lancas is a graduate of Ringgold High School and St. Vincent College with a bachelor of arts and master's degrees in curriculum and instruction. She is employed as a fifth grade teacher at Marion Elementary School in the Belle Vernon Area School District.

Manley is a graduate of Greensburg Salem High School and St. Vincent College. He is employed as a child mental health caseworker for Westmoreland County Case Management and Supports.

He is pursuing a graduate degree in counseling at Duquesne University.

The couple is planning an Aug. 9, 2008, wedding in St. Sebastian Roman Catholic Church, Belle Vernon.

McLaughlin-Kislear

Toni L. McLaughlin & Jordan Kislear

William and Kimberly McLaughlin, of New Eagle, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Toni Lynne, to Jordan Kislear, of Washington, Pa. He is the son of Pete and Jane Kislear.

McLaughlin is a 1999 graduate of Ringgold High School and a four-year veteran of the U.S. Army. She expects to graduate in May 2008 from Penn State University with a bachelor of science degree in landscape contracting.

Kislear is a 2002 graduate of Trinity High School in Washington and graduated in 2006 with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from Penn State University.

He is currently employed by the U.S. Department of Energy in Washington, D.C.

The couple is planning a June 21, 2008, wedding in St. Anthony Catholic Church, Monongahela.

Read The Valley Independent
online at
www.valleyindependent.com

Frugal Living

Staying in touch across the miles

Sara **NOEL**

Keeping in touch with long-distance family can be a challenge. This is especially true if you have young children and want them to develop a special connection with family they don't often get to see.

It takes creativity and effort to maintain relationships that don't get a lot of one-on-one time.

If you've been frustrated by living far from family, don't let long periods of time pass without reaching out. Here are some ideas to bridge the gap between visits.

GET CONNECTED: If you don't have a computer, consider buying one. It's a wonderful way to stay in touch with family and a great alternative to high long-distance phone charges. You can stay in contact in real time via the Internet in various ways, so you won't miss out on both small and big moments. You don't need the latest technology. Even a budget model will serve your needs if you're just typing letters and accessing the Internet.

E-MAIL: You can send a quick letter, photos, files and links any time of day. Using e-mail lets you keep other family members in the loop, too.

FAMILY BLOG OR WEB SITE: Create a family Web site. You don't need to be tech savvy. Web sites offer services that include creating a simple home page and features such as picture, video, calendar and voice-clip capabilities. Visit www.myfamily.com or www.keepandshare.com.

You can also register at Web sites that offer wish lists, so shopping for gifts or donating to your loved one's favorite charity is easy. Visit www.thethingsiwant.com, www.wishlist.com and www.justgive.org.

INSTANT MESSAGING: While nothing replaces visiting in person, chat software is the perfect way to carry on conversations instantly. You can share voice chats and Web cams to read stories, sing or just talk.

CALL: Long-distance phone charges can often get expensive. Compare long-distance plans online at www.e-wisdom.com/long_distance to get the best rate for your landline phone. While many cell-phone plans are now offering free or discounted long distance, you can also try services such as Skype (www.skype.com), which is a free program both parties can download to talk.

ONLINE GAMES: You don't have to be there in person to play games together. Computers make it easy and fun to connect in multiplayer games.

DELIVERED SENTIMENTS: Letters and packages still reign supreme. Consider sending artwork, home crafts, scrapbooks, postcards, a family newsletter, home videos and music. Buy and send gifts that last all year, such as magazine or game subscriptions, or create your own "gift of the month" with DVDs, books, puzzles and toys, to name a few.

Write to Sara Noel, c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10016, or e-mail sara@frugalvillage.com.

CALENDAR WATCH

Wednesday

- Marion Elementary PTA meeting, 7 p.m.
- Introduction to Fly Tying, Washington County Courthouse Square, 7 to 9 p.m.
- Seniors for Safe Driving education program, West Newton Senior Center, 8 to 11:30 a.m.
- Westmoreland County Area Agency on Aging Caregivers Support Group meeting, Area Agency on Aging, Greensburg, 1 to 3 p.m.

VALLEY GRAPEVINE

Fire chiefs plan Ohiopyle meeting

Southwestern Pennsylvania Fire Chiefs and Assistant Fire Chiefs Association will meet 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Ohiopyle Volunteer Fire Department.

Clothing ministry continues

A clothing ministry is held 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays at Fellowship Baptist Church, Knox Ave., Monessen.

St. John Altar Society to meet

St. John Altar Society of Perryopolis will meet following the 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass in the social center.

Pancake breakfast planned Sunday

The Victory Hill Civic and Social Association will sponsor a pancake breakfast 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday. Breakfast will consist of pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee. The social center is located at 27 Jones Lane, Carroll Township.

Seats available for Pittsburgh show

The Charleroi Goldenagers will not meet in January or February. The next meeting will be held March 7. Seats are still available on the March 2 trip to see The Drowsy Chaperone at the Benedum Center. Call Sam at (724) 489-9486.

Soup sale set in Rostraver

The United Methodist Women Evening Circle from Fells United Methodist Church, Rostraver Township, is planning its annual soup sale Jan. 26 and 27. Orders are due by Jan. 21. Soups available by the quart or pint include chicken rice, chicken fiesta, bean, potato, stuffed pepper, pasta e fagoli and vegetable beef. Orders can be placed by calling (724) 379-4502 or (724) 930-7202. Pickups at the church at 1268 Fells Church Road will be 10 a.m. to noon Jan. 26 or noon to 1 p.m. Jan. 27. Delivery can be arranged.

Monessen '53 sets meeting

Monessen High School Class of 1953 will hold a reunion planning meeting 6:30 p.m. Friday at the social hall of St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church, 1201 Patton Ave., Monessen. All classmates are welcome.

Transportation office to close

Washington Rides (Washington County Transportation Authority Office) will be closed Monday in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. The office will reopen Jan. 22 at regular hours. Passengers should schedule with the office no later than 3 p.m. Friday, for trips on Saturday, and by 4 p.m. for trips on Sunday, Monday and Jan. 22, if available. For information, call (724) 223-8747 or 1-800-331-5058.

VFW Post 699 plans meeting

Belle Vernon Area Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 699 will meet 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the American Legion Home, Broad Avenue, North Belle Vernon.

THE QUIZ

NEWSPLACE

(10 points for correct answer)

In the jungles of this South American nation, anti-government rebels hold hundreds of hostages, some of whom have been in captivity for years. Recently, in a deal brokered by Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez, the rebels released two high-profile captives. One of them was Clara Rojas, who had been an aide to politician Ingrid Betancourt. The two were kidnapped in 2002 while Betancourt was campaigning for this country's presidency. After her release, Rojas was reunited with her 3-year-old son, fathered by one of the rebels. The boy had been in a foster home in the country's capital city. Name this country.

WORLDSCOPE

(10 points for each correct answer)

1-Former presidential candidate John Kerry surprised many when he endorsed ..?.. for the '08 presidential race.

2-British adventurer ..?.., who in 1953 became the first to reach the peak of Mount Everest, died recently at 88.

3-The chief of the U.S. military, Admiral Mike Mullen, said the ..?.. in Cuba has been "pretty damaging" to the world's image of the U.S.

4-During his trip to the Middle East, President Bush made his first visit to our oil-rich ally ..?.., delivering a major arms sale to that country.

5-Now 86, Suharto, who for 32 years ruled the Asian nation ..?.. with an iron fist, is in grave condition.

PEOPLE/SPORTS

(5 points for each correct answer)

1.Who is Monessen council's new director of accounts and finances?

2.Who is board secretary for the Rostraver Township commissioners?

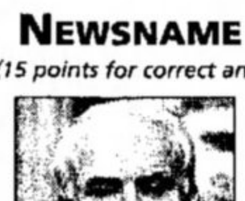
3.Who is North Belle Vernon council's new head of administration and finance?

4.Who is head coach for the Belle Vernon Area High School varsity boys' basketball team?

5.Who is Belle Vernon Area High School's wrestling coach?

NEWSNAME

(15 points for correct answer)



As a naval aviator in the Vietnam War, I was shot down over North Vietnam and badly injured. I was held for five and a half years as a prisoner of war and I was tortured. Now I am one of the Republicans seeking the presidential nomination. A few months ago, my campaign was considered all but dead. But in recent weeks I've experienced huge gains in the polls, especially after winning the New Hampshire primary. Although many in the Republican base dislike me and some of my stances, I am now my party's frontrunner in the polls. Who am I?

YOUR SCORE:

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91 to 100 points *TOP SCORE!*	71 to 80 points *Good*
81 to 90 points *Excellent*	61 to 70 points *Fair*

ANSWERS

NEWSPLACE: Colombia
WORLDSCOPE: 1-Barack Obama; 2-Sir Edmund Hillary; 3-Guantanamo Bay; 4-Saudi Arabia; 5-Indonesia
NEWSNAME: John McCain
PEOPLE/SPORTS: 1-Jeff Gagatko; 2-Pamela Beard; 3-Heather Prinkey; 4-John Dudzinski; 5-Mel Gray

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: U equals V

"GX'W MSX D NSSY GYLD XS ZHX PSHT VGEL GMXS D MSULO; MSX PSHT ODXLWX VGEL DMPVDP." - MSTIDM IDGOLT

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"Without self-discipline, success is impossible, period." - Lou Holtz

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Our upcoming special section, Brides, was created especially for brides-to-be. Inside, you'll find features designed to help you plan the perfect wedding day and beyond. From the latest bridal fashions and flowers to financial planning advice, invitation etiquette and honeymoon hot spots, there's something for everyone ... including the groom.
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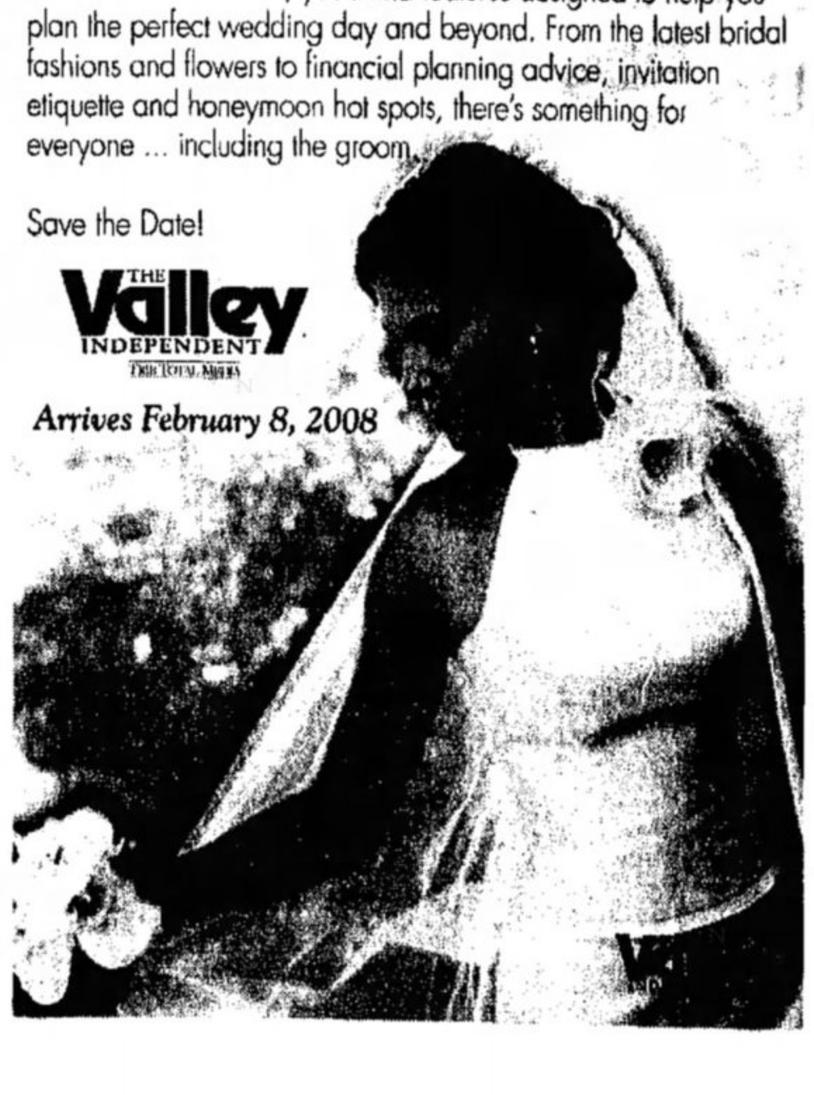

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The Mini Page®

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Meet the Author of "Walden"

A 'Thoreau' Life

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer."
— Henry David Thoreau

Have you ever heard that someone "marches to a different drummer"? What does that mean?

Henry David Thoreau (thu-ROH) was a writer in the mid-1800s. He had some unusual ideas about how each person should act as part of a larger world. He "heard a different drummer."

The Mini Page looks at this important American whose ideas are still affecting others.

"All change is a miracle to contemplate; but it is a miracle which is taking place every second."
— Henry David Thoreau

Often we are impressed only by big changes. But in nature, things are always changing. We just don't always pay attention.

Family

Henry was born in 1817 in Concord, Mass. He had two sisters and a brother.

Henry's older sister, his father and an uncle all died from **tuberculosis** (tu-ber-cu-LOS-is), a disease of the lungs. Henry died from this disease when he was only 44.

His family owned a small pencil-making factory. Experts believe dust from the factory may have made it harder for family members to fight off the tuberculosis.

This picture shows Henry David Thoreau when he was about 39.

"Be not simply good; be good for something."
— Henry David Thoreau

Thoreau is saying it's not enough to just stay out of trouble. We need to try to make things better.

Growing up

Henry's family hated slavery. His family's house was part of the Underground Railroad, a system that helped slaves flee north to freedom. Henry helped hide runaway slaves.

Like many men at that time, he started college when he was 16. Henry went to Harvard College. He studied literature and language.

"Nothing is so much to be feared as fear."
— Henry David Thoreau

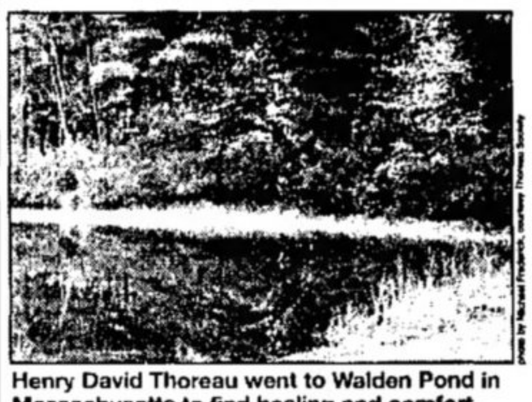
Our own fears can make things much worse than they are.

Early hardships

After college, Henry began teaching. But he quit after two weeks when he was told to hit the students who misbehaved.

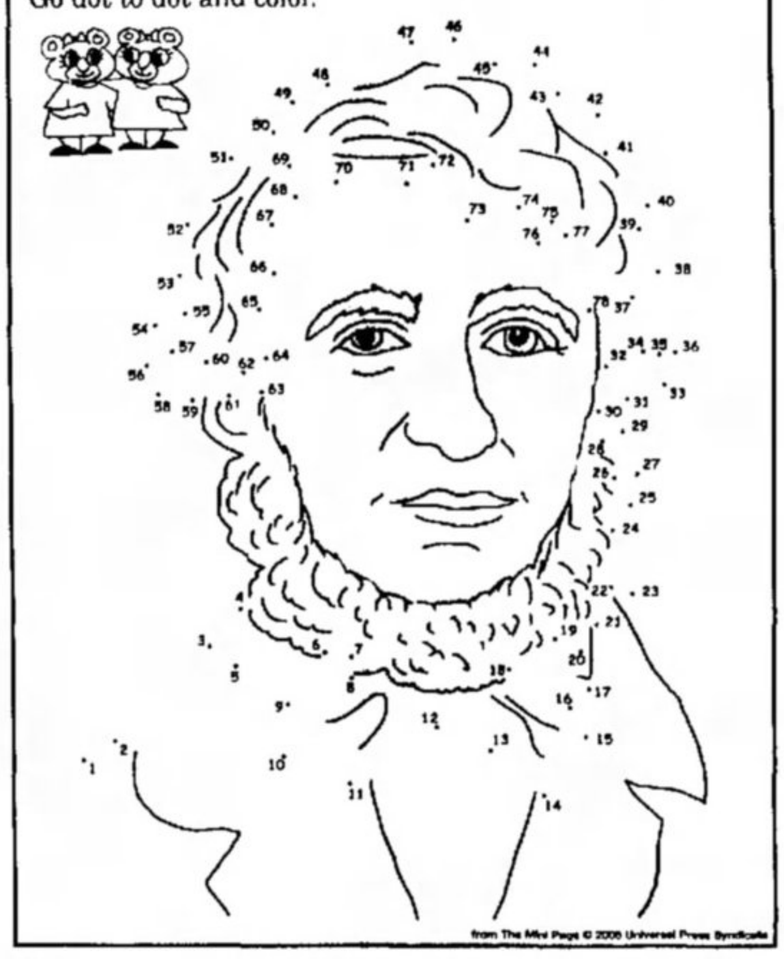
He started his own school. He and his brother, John, ran it together. However tragedy struck after about three years. His brother died of tetanus after cutting his finger. He died in Henry's arms.

Henry was so upset that he developed symptoms of tetanus himself, even though he did not have the disease. He could not get out of bed for a month, and his family thought he was going to die too. It took him a year to get better.



Henry David Thoreau went to Walden Pond in Massachusetts to find healing and comfort.

Go dot to dot and color.



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Rookie Cookie's Recipe
Bananutty Muffins

This makes a healthy breakfast treat or after-school snack.

You'll need:

- 1 cup whole-wheat flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup mashed ripe bananas (2 medium bananas)
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/4 cup fat-free sour cream
- 1 egg
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/3 cup chopped pecans

What to do:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Arrange muffin liners in muffin pan.
2. Mix flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt in a medium bowl.
3. In a separate bowl, combine mashed banana, sugar, sour cream, egg, vanilla and cinnamon.
4. Stir banana mixture into flour mix until just combined. Add chopped pecans. Spoon into prepared muffin pan.
5. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes until done. Makes 10 to 12 muffins.

**You will need an adult's help with this recipe.*

from The Mini Page © 2008 Universal Press Syndicate

Meet Morgan Taylor

Morgan Taylor is an illustrator, songwriter and singer. He created an animated character, Gustafer Yellowgold, that he uses in videos. Morgan has also made several CDs.

He grew up in Dayton, Ohio. By the time he was 13 he was getting jobs making art. When he was a teenager, he also began singing in several different music groups.

When he was out of school, he drew his character Gustafer Yellowgold for a picture book he was working on. Gustafer is a creature who came to Earth from the sun.

Morgan ended up turning the character's story into a video. He showed it when he performed with his band. He wrote the music to go along with the video.

He now plays with different bands. He lives in New York City. He teaches music to kids and presents animation and music workshops in different schools.

from The Mini Page © 2008 Universal Press Syndicate

Goldie Goodsport's Report
Supersport: Danielle Scott-Arruda

Height: 6-2 Birthdate: 10-1-72 Hometown: Baton Rouge, La.

For Danielle Scott-Arruda, the Olympic flame never seems to flicker out. Neither does her competitive fire. The 35-year-old USA volleyball team veteran will be competing in her fourth consecutive Olympics in 2008 after helping the Americans qualify once again this year.

Scott-Arruda joined the USA International team in 1994 and became one of the premier middle blockers in the sport. In the 2007 World Cup she also led the USA in attack percentage (.464).

Before launching her distinguished international career, Scott-Arruda was a three-time All-American and a national Player of the Year at Long Beach State. Her pre-match ritual includes listening to inspirational music and eating some chocolate!

Away from the court, and when she isn't traveling around the world, Scott-Arruda likes to check e-mail, read, and spend time with her husband.

After completing her athletic career, she wants to develop her foundation, Believer in You, to promote education, arts and sports. On and off the court, her motto is: "Whatever you do, give 100 percent, find something positive in each situation, and smile through the difficult moments."

from The Mini Page © 2008 Universal Press Syndicate

Walden Pond

"In Wildness is the preservation of the World."
— Henry David Thoreau

Nature is what will protect the Earth.

Walden

Henry needed a peaceful place to recover after his brother's death. He was also seeking a life of simple living. He wanted to reduce his needs to as few as possible. This gave him time to do the things that were most important to him: writing, observing nature and protesting slavery.

Henry said he wanted to think carefully about all the choices he made. He did not want to find that when it was time for him to die, he had not fully lived.

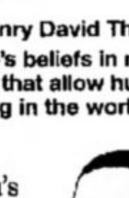
Henry built a cabin at Walden Pond and moved in. He stayed there for more than two years. During this time he wrote a book in memory of his brother. He wrote in his journal every day.

Later, he finished a book about his thoughts at Walden Pond. He actually cut out parts of his journal and pasted them onto his "Walden" manuscript.

One of Henry's earliest memories was of a picnic he went on with his family when he was about 4 years old. They had picnicked at a pretty area about a mile from Concord called Walden Pond.

"Life in the Woods"

Henry David Thoreau's book "Walden, or Life in the Woods" became one of the most important books in American history.



In "Walden," Henry described the beauties of nature. He realized nature is a creation in itself and it does not center around humans.

In "Walden," he urged people to act as individuals, to be independent. He criticized the importance people place on material things.

"The question is not what you look at, but what you see."
— Henry David Thoreau

Do you really see what you are looking at? Do you pay attention?

Seeking balance

Henry did not become a hermit at Walden. His cabin was right off the main road, and people visited often. He wrote that he always tried to be a good neighbor. He also visited his mother.

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Thoreau's Influence

"Under a government which imprisons any unjustly, the true place for a just man is also in prison."
— Henry David Thoreau

If a country is jailing innocent people, then good people will protest this, even if they end up in jail too.

Civil disobedience

Henry was part of a group of people who wrote about their belief that there is more to human beings than our bodies. There is a human spirit, too.

He believed that being a good person was more important than being a citizen. He thought that people should disobey laws that they believe to be wrong. But he also realized they could be punished for this disobedience.

To protest slavery, Henry refused to pay one of his taxes for years. Finally, while he was living at Walden Pond, he was arrested, and spent a night in jail.

He was protesting against a human and civil rights problem. He did not say people should use these methods, for example, to protest against homework!

Henry went on to write about fighting peacefully against bad laws. This essay was called "Civil Disobedience."

Henry later supported the actions of John Brown, who fought slavery with violence.

This statue shows Henry David Thoreau walking near a replica of his cabin at Walden Pond. He walked about four hours every day.

"Beware of all enterprises that require new clothes."
— Henry David Thoreau

Henry had a sense of humor, too. Part of his belief in keeping things simple was to avoid anything he did not really need.

After Walden Pond

Henry was not able to make a living by his writing. He supported himself by lecturing and by **surveying** land, or taking measurements of it. His surveying allowed him to work outside, which he loved. He wrote about nature throughout his life.

His work about how forest trees grow became one of the most important writings about nature.

"The world rests on principles."
— Henry David Thoreau

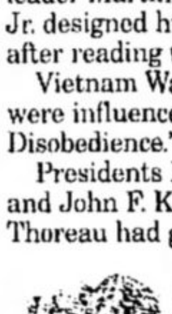
It is people's beliefs in right and wrong that allow humans to get along in the world.

His work lives on

Henry David Thoreau's writings have influenced some of the top leaders of the world. U.S. civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. designed his nonviolent protests after reading the work of Thoreau.

Vietnam War protesters in the 1960s were influenced by Thoreau's "Civil Disobedience."

Presidents Franklin Delano Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy both wrote that Thoreau had guided them.



Experts call Thoreau the father of the environmental movement. John Muir, a founder of the Sierra Club, an environmental group, was moved by Thoreau's words.

The Mini Page thanks Michael Frederick, executive director, Thoreau Society, for help with this issue.

Site to see: www.thoreausociety.org

Look at the stories and ads in your newspaper. Do you believe Thoreau would think people are too worried about aterial objects today? Why or why not?

Next week The Mini Page is about primary election season.

The Mini Page Staff

Betty Debnam - Contributing Editor Lisa Tarry - Managing Editor Lucy Lien - Associate Editor Wendy Daley - Artist

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MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes

All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

Greg: What type of poetry do aliens enjoy?
Giselle: Universes!

Gordon: What is a bed's favorite poetry?
Gary: Blanket verse!

Ginger: Which poet always finishes his work completely?
Gillian: Henry David Thorough!

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Basset Brown The News Hound's THOREAU TRY 'N FIND

Words that remind us of Thoreau are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: WALDEN, POND, WRITER, CIVIL, DISOBEDIENCE, DIFFERENT, DRUMMER, CONCORD, NATURE, INFLUENCE, SIMPLE, LIFE, CABIN, LAW, PROTEST, TAX, JAIL, ENVIRONMENT, WALK, INDIVIDUAL.

C V L E C N E I D E B O S I D
J I R E T I R W R E M M U R D
W A V C X A T D R O C N O C W
A C I I L A U D I V I D N I A
L A L L L B P T S E T O R P L
D B A M N E C N E U L F N I K
E I W E R U T A N E L P M I S
N N E F I L T N E R E F F I D
D N O P T N E M N O R I V N E

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Mini Spy . . .

Mini Spy and the Alpha Mice are visiting Walden Pond. See if you can find:

- lamb
- letter C
- eyeglasses
- fish
- snake
- spool of thread
- lips
- two chickens
- button
- word MINI
- teapot
- elephant
- number 8

This Mini-Page Is Sponsored by MVHR Mon-Vale Health Resources, Inc.

EASTGATE 19, MONESSEN, PA 15062
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30AM-5:00PM

Valley INDEPENDENT

TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

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VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM 724.684.5200 FAX: 724.684.2602

RECRUITMENT
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

MERCHANDISE
4 LINES • 4 DAYS
$14.30 PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

GARAGE SALES
5 LINES • 3 DAYS
$18.65
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

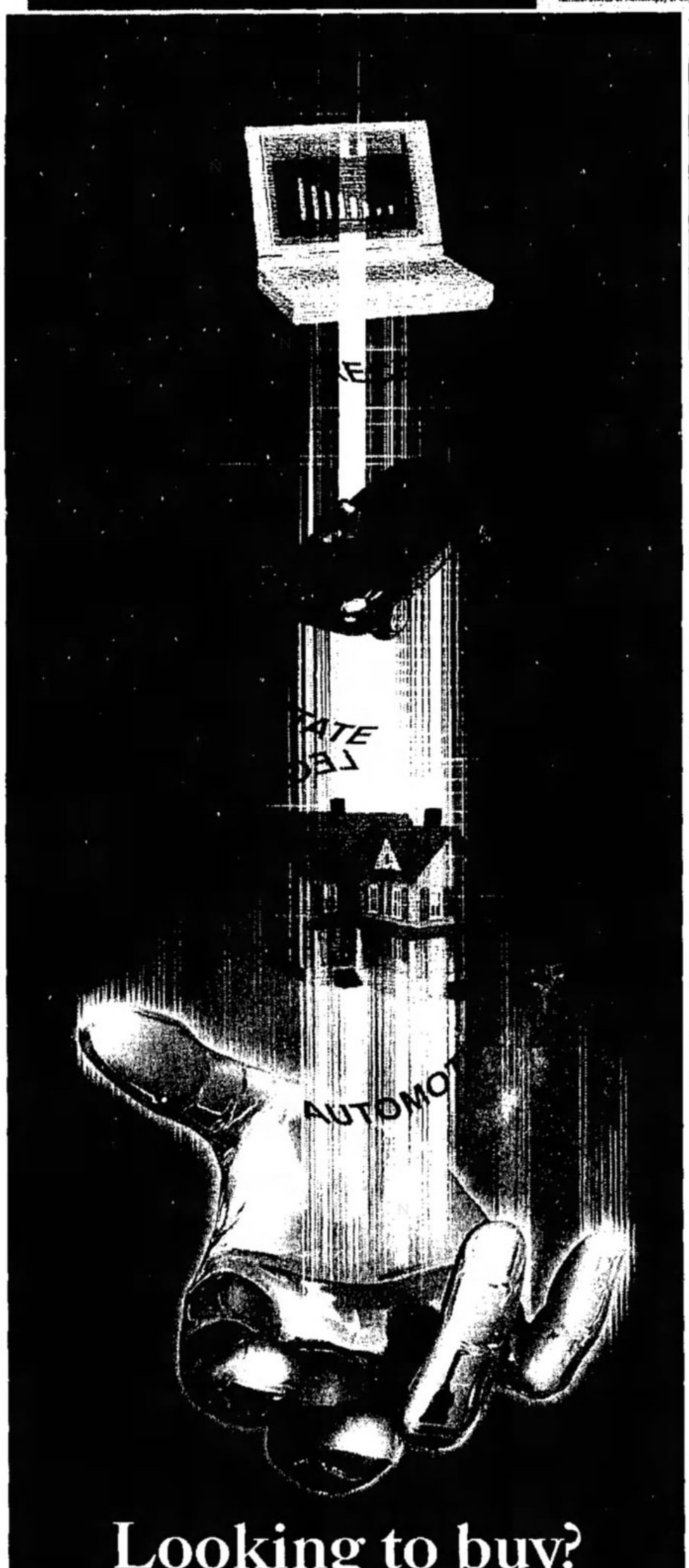
SERVICE DIRECTORY
3 LINES • 30 DAYS
$59.77
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

AUTOMOTIVE
4 LINES • 26 DAYS
$34.78 PRE-PAY PRIVATE PARTY ONLY.
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

RUN UNTIL IT SELLS!
4 LINES
PRIVATE PARTY MERCHANDISE ONLY. NO BUSINESSES, AUTOS, BOATS, RV'S, REAL ESTATE, MOBILE HOMES OR APARTMENTS.
ASKING PRICE OF ITEM IS REDUCED EVERY TWO WEEKS BY 5%
$19.45 PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

PRE-PAY WITH VISA MasterCard Discover

GENERAL INFORMATION: The Tribune-Review Publishing Company reserves the right to edit or reject any advertising copy and determine the correct classification of any advertisement. MISPRINTS: Notice of error should be reported to the Classified Department immediately. The Tribune-Review Publishing Company will not be responsible for more than the cost of that part of an ad rendered valueless by the error. CONFIDENTIALITY: Confidential box numbers – we do not disclose the name of any advertiser using our classified pages. Persons answering File Number ads who wish to protect their identity can do so as follows: Place your reply in an envelope addressed to the File Box at the Valley Independent Classified Department, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062. Include the file number and a list of firms or persons you DO NOT want your reply to reach. If the advertiser is anyone you've listed, we'll destroy your reply. NOTICE: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, familial status or handicaps, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. The paper accepts only recruitment advertising meeting EOE standards. The newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law.



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1040/MEDICAL

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For more information call 724-310-1111.
Send resume to:
MON VALLEY CARE CENTER
200 STOOPS DRIVE
MONONGAHELA, PA 15063
OR VISIT US AT THE
ABOVE ADDRESS
E.O.E

1000/GENERAL

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE established local company has full-time accounts payable opening. General office & bookkeeping skills required. Excellent benefits. Send cover letter & resume to Box 890, c/o Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062

CIRCULATION ASSISTANTS
Opportunities to Join a Winning Team!

The Tribune-Review Publishing Company has open positions for Part-time Circulation Assistants.
Currently an exciting opportunity exists for the right individual. A chance to earn, learn and advance.

- Steady Part-time, approx. 30 hrs./wk.
- Early morning hours
- Delivery & customer service skills necessary
- Work Independently
- Competitive wage & auto allowance

If interested, call Ken Planinsek at
724-850-2826
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

CONSTRUCTION LABORER

Current openings in Mon Valley area for applicant with previous construction/carpentry background. Previous framing experience a plus, good measuring skills and exp. with hand power tools.
1-800-485-6502
M-F 9am-4pm
EOE/MF

1000/GENERAL

BAR HELP for local club Mature, responsible Hours vary Mail replies: 101 W. Main St. Monongahela PA 15063

COUNTY OF FAYETTE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The County of Fayette currently has the following job opportunities available: Small Transit Vehicle Operator (Part-time) - $9.80/hr., Accounts Clerk I $8.59/hr. + benefits, Information Technology Manager - $12.48/hr. + benefits, Maintenance Manager - $16.25/hr. + benefits and an Information Technology Specialist at $15.02/hr. + benefits. Interested candidates should visit our website at www.co.fayette.pa.us for complete job descriptions and qualifications required and forward their resumes to the Fayette County Human Resource Department, Courthouse, 61 E. Main St., Uniontown, PA 15401. EOE

DOWN ROUTE DRIVER

Part-time position, approximately 25 hrs./week. Assist district managers with the delivery of newspapers to subscribers on routes that temporarily have no carrier. Must possess valid PA driver's license and reliable vehicle. Hourly rate plus mileage. Applications available at The Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062 or email your resume to lhutchison@tribweb.com

EXPERIENCED AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN or PAINTER
Full-time
Call 724-239-4500

FACILITY SECURITY ATTENDANTS

Multiple, part-time staff needed for a Greensburg area Safe Harbor program. Responsibilities include maintaining the general security, cleanliness and order of the assigned emergency residence facility. Some light housekeeping and general oversite of residents. Must be available to work all shifts, and also rotating weekends and holidays. Interested persons please send a resume or letter of interest to Dept. 0806, PO Box 66, Charleroi, PA 15022. For additional information, log on to hour home page address at:
www.sphs.org
Our email address is
postmaster@sphs.org

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Fantastic Sams
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412-302-8661 or
724-929-9550

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General laborers, mechanically inclined, previous manufacturing background. Machine operating experience a plus.
1-800-485-6502
M-F 9am-4pm
EOE/MF

Look a little closer.

Advertise now.

The Valley INDEPENDENT

Stay ahead of the competition

1000/GENERAL

MH/MR Support Staff

Laurel Highlands Foundation Inc., a non-profit organization that supports persons with MH/MR developmental disabilities, is currently seeking part-time and full-time support staff to work in our community homes in the West Newton, Turkeytown Rd., New Stanton, and Elizabeth areas. No experience is necessary. Paid training. Must be at least 18 years of age and have valid PA driver's license. Starting rate is $8.63/hour with benefits after 90 days, increase to $8.86/hr. after 6 months. EOE. Call ONLY Mon.-Fri. 9-3pm. 412-825-9141

MOTOR ROUTE DRIVER
Fallowfield Twp.

- Mon.-Sat.
- 69 Customers
- No Collections
- 1½ hours daily

724-684-2647

NOTICE TO READERS:

While work-at-home and other informational advertising is often legitimate, we advise readers to fully investigate the background of any company before paying a fee. If an offer sounds "too good to be true", it probably is. Proceed with caution if you are asked to send money or in calling 900 numbers. All phone numbers prefixed by "900" are charged to the caller on a per minute or per call basis. The Valley Independent makes every effort to qualify these charges for the reader. Remember, if you have any doubts, investigate!

SECRETARY for Elizabeth area restaurant. Daylight, weekends, some weekdays. Some computer skills needed. Send resume: Box 868, c/o Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062.

SITE MONITOR

Connect, Inc. is accepting applications for a full-time Site Monitor in the Safe Harbor program. Will monitor day to day operations, program status and activities. Must have one year case management experience. Send resume or letter of interest to: Dept. 0805, PO Box 66, Charleroi, PA 15022. For additional info, log on to our homepage address at:
www.sphs.org
Our email address is:
postmaster@sphs.org

An Equal Opportunity Employer

1025/DRIVERS

LIFT VAN DRIVERS & Taxi Drivers. Must have clean drivers license. Apply at Tri County Access, 1001 Meldon Ave., Donora

Van & Bus Drivers

Matthews Bus Company seeks individuals who are people-oriented & committed to safety for Van & School Bus Driving positions. Pre-Employment drug testing & fingerprinting required. Training provided for those seeking CDL/School Bus License. For application or more information please call 412-384-8810. Matthews Bus Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

1040/MEDICAL

CNA
Full/Part-time

Mon Valley Care Center accepting CNA applications for daylight, afternoon, and midnight shifts. Competitive salary, insurance benefits, vacation/ holiday package, and 401K.

Join the Valley's most dynamic nursing team

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Send Resumes to:
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or fax to:
724-310-1195
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1040/MEDICAL

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Mon Valley area. Experience necessary. PA X-ray certification required. Competitive salary, vacation. Send resume to Box 876, c/o Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Worker with a Bachelor's Degree required and experience preferred, excellent interpersonal and organizational skills, knowledge of long-term care industry and Medical Assistance process required. Please submit a cover letter and resume with salary history/expectations to: audra@jeffersonhillsmanor.com or fax/mail to the address below.

Jefferson Hills Manor
448 Old Clairton Road
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025
Phone: 412-653-1128
Fax: 412-653-2330
EOE

RN

Oncology/Hematology practice in Mon Valley. Acute care experience required. 8:30am-5pm Mon.-Fri. Attractive work conditions, salary, benefits. Fax resume to 724-292-9128

1050/SALES

OUTSIDE SALES REPS

Full or Part Time
Flexible Hours
Excellent Income Potential

We are looking for aggressive, results-oriented salespeople to join our team to market Home Delivery of
Tribune-Review Publishing Company
Crew leader, storefront and door-to-door positions are available.
Please call 412-610-6378
9am-5:30pm Monday
8am-3pm Tues. & Wed.
8am-12 Thursday
Closed Friday

1110/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

CARRIER WANTED CHARLEROI
Char House Highrise
43 Customers
Mon.-Sat.
No Collections
Call 724-684-2648

CARRIER WANTED BELLE VERNON AREA
100's Kelly
100's Lee
100-200's Orchard
27 Papers
Mon.-Sat.
Call 724-684-2648

FLORAL & Gift Shop for sale. Busy, great location, reasonable. Or purchase all contents inc. coolers. Reply to Box 888 c/o The Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062.

MON CITY BUNDLE ROUTE OPEN
1 Hour Daily
Approx. $405 A Month
Call Melissa
724-684-2647

MONESSEN ROUTES OPEN
Athalia, Dennis
31 Papers
No Collecting
Call 724-684-2647

ROUTES AVAILABLE
Tribune Review
✓ California
✓ Bentleyville
✓ Ellsworth Area
Call Jason at
724-272-4437 or
Bill at 412-523-2306

LOOKING FOR LOVE? CHECK OUT MEETING PLACE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

VALLEY INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING INDEX

RECRUITMENT - 1000
1000 Help Wanted
1010 Accounting/Finance
1020 Computer/Technical
1030 Engineering
1040 Medical
1050 Sales
1060 Professional
1070 Resumes
1080 Employment
1090 Educational/Instruction
1100 Information
1110 Business Opportunity
1120 Situations
1130 Day Care

LEGAL - 2000
2000 Criminal Notices
2010 Estate Notices
2020 Bid Notices
2040 Civil Notices
2030 Meeting Notices
2050 Corporate Notices
2060 Government Notices

REAL ESTATE - 3000
SALES
3000 Open Houses
3005 For Sale - Alleg. Co. N.
3010 For Sale - Alleg. Co. S.
3015 For Sale - Alleg. Co. E.
3020 For Sale - Alleg. Co. W.
3025 For Sale - Pittsburgh/City
3030 For Sale - Armstrong
3035 For Sale - Beaver
3040 For Sale - Butler
3045 For Sale - Fayette
3050 For Sale - Green
3055 For Sale - Indiana
3056 For Sale - Mon Valley
3060 For Sale - Washington
3065 For Sale - Westmoreland
3070 Condos
3075 Lots/Acreage
3080 Mobile Homes/Spaces
3085 Farms
3090 Manufactured Homes
RENT
3500 Apt./Rent - Alleg. Co. N.
3505 Apt./Rent - Alleg. Co. S.
3510 Apt./Rent - Alleg. Co. E.
3515 Apt./Rent - Alleg. Co. W.
3520 Apt./Rent - Pittsburgh/City
3525 Apt./Rent - Armstrong
3530 Apt./Rent - Beaver
3535 Apt./Rent - Butler
3540 Apt./Rent - Fayette
3545 Apt./Rent - Green
3550 Apt./Rent - Indiana
3551 Apt./Rent - Mon Valley
3555 Apt./Rent - Washington
3560 Apt./Rent - Westmoreland
3565 Houses/Rent - Alleg. Co. N.
3570 Houses/Rent - Alleg. Co. S.
3575 Houses/Rent - Alleg. Co. E.
3580 Houses/Rent - Alleg. Co. W.
3585 Houses/Rent - Pittsburgh/City
3590 Houses/Rent - Armstrong
3595 Houses/Rent - Beaver
3600 Houses/Rent - Butler
3605 Houses/Rent - Fayette
3610 Houses/Rent - Greene
3615 Houses/Rent - Indiana
3617 Houses/Rent - Mon Valley
3620 Houses/Rent - Washington
3625 Houses/Rent - Westmoreland
3630 Apts./Complex
3635 Sales/Rent
3640 Rooms/Rent
3645 Mobile Rentals
3650 Wanted Rent

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE - 3700
3700 Commercial - Rent
3705 Commercial - Sales
3710 Industrial - Rent
3715 Industrial - Sales
3720 Investment Property
3725 Wanted Rent

ANNOUNCEMENTS - 4000
4000 Adoption
4010 Cemetery Lots
4020 Entertainment
4030 Financial
4040 Home Improvements
4050 Insurance
4060 Legal Services
4070 Lost & Found
4080 Memorians
4090 Miscellaneous
4100 Personals
4110 Personal Services
4120 Thanks
4130 Tickets

MERCHANDISE - 5000
5000 Apparel & Jewelry
5010 Appliances
5020 Articles
5030 Auctions
5040 Building Material
5050 Business Equipment
5060 Computers
5070 Electronics
5080 Exercise Equipment
5090 Farm Equipment
5100 Feed
5110 Food
5120 Fuel
5130 Furniture
5140 Garden
5150 Home Health Care
5160 Livestock
5170 Machinery/Hardware
5180 Musical
5190 Restaurant Equipment
5200 Top Soil
5210 Trade/Swap!
5220 Wanted To Buy

GARAGE SALES - 5300
5300 Flea Markets
5310 Garage Sales

PETS - 5500
5500 Adoptions
5510 Pet In Memoriams
5520 Animal Shelters
5530 Animal Shows
5540 Birds
5550 Cats
5560 Dogs - AKC/Purebred
5570 Dogs - Mixed
5580 Horses
5585 Pets - Mixed
5590 Kennels/Boarding
5600 Lost & Found
5610 Pet Supplies/Services

AUTOMOTIVE - 6000
6000 Travel
6010 Recreational Vehicles
6020 Motorcycles
6030 Trucks
6040 Sport Utility
6050 Parts & Accessories
6060 Vans
6070 Leasing/Rentals
6080 Auto Sales
6090 Antique/Classic
6100 Wanted To Buy
6110 Auto Service Dealers

1120/SITUATIONS

LINDA & LOUISE'S Cleaning. Experienced. Excellent references. Reasonable rates. Call 724-483-2737.

2010/ESTATE NOTICES

Olson, Regina
ESTATE NOTICE

The Estate of Regina C. Olson, deceased, late of the Peters Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania

Letters Testamentary upon the above estate having been granted to the undersigned, notice is hereby given to those indebted thereto to make immediate payment and to those having claims or demands to present them for settlement

Michelle E. Day,
Executrix
c/o 101 North Main St.
Greensburg, PA 15601

George A. Conti, Jr.,
Esquire
101 North Main Street
Greensburg, PA 15601
724-836-3188
1/8,15,22

2010/ESTATE NOTICES

Crosser, Hester M.
ESTATE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, in the estate of HESTER M. CROSSER, deceased, late of Rostraver Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, the Register of Wills has granted letters testamentary to the executor named below. All persons having claims or demands against said estate are requested to present the same to the executor or the attorney named below and all persons indebted to the decedent are requested to make payment without delay to the executor named below.

Charles S. Jarvis
Executor
8154 Darby Road Apt. 2
Roanoke, VA 24012

Mark E. Ramsier,
Esquire
Attorney at Law
823 Broad Avenue
Belle Vernon, PA 15012
1/8,15,22

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REAL ESTATE

2020/BID NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

The Bentworth School District is soliciting bids for the rekeying of the high school and elementary center. Sealed bids will be accepted until Monday, February 4, 2008 at 11 p.m. and will be publicly opened at that time. The front of the sealed bid should be marked "REKEYING".

Bids may be awarded at the February 19, 2008 regular meeting of the Board of Education.

Specification may be obtained by calling 724-239-2861, extension 272.

The Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or parts of bids.

Debra J. Babirad
Board Secretary
1/15,22,29

2030/MEETING NOTICES

NOTICE

The Newell Municipal Authority's regular monthly meetings for the year 2008 will be held on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 P.M. in the Newell Borough Building on the following dates:

January 21, 2008
February 18, 2008
March 17, 2008
April 21, 2008
May 19, 2008
June 16, 2008
July 21, 2008
August 18, 2008
September 15, 2008
October 20, 2008
November 17, 2008
December 15, 2008

Special meetings may be held as called for by giving the public 24 hours notice prior to the meeting.
This notice is given to comply with the requirements of the "Sunshine Act". All meetings are open to the public.

Newell Municipal Authority
Carl J. Lama, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer
1/15

SHOP THE CLASSIFIEDS TODAY!

3060/FOR SALE/WASH.

CALL FOR DETAILS

MONONGAHELA Nicely renovated 3 bedroom home plus a separate office or business. Great location across from new King's Restaurant. Zoned C-2. Many possibilities. $119,921.

NEW EAGLE Lovely 2 bedroom mobile in great community. Private side yard, great for small garden. Call today $17,900.

UNION TWP. 30x40 building on lot. Call today for details. Asking $26,000.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-348-7470

CHARLEROI

Totally remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 full baths, corner lot. Immaculate! $79,900. Call Cathy Gallo at:

Prudential Preferred Realty
724-929-7228

3065/FOR SALE/WMLD.

NEW LISTING

3 bedroom brick ranch in Monessen. Close to school. Full basement with 1 car integral garage. $92,000.

CITY PARK

Bright & airy, maintenance free brick ranch. Finished family room, 2 car tandem garage, storage galore. $113,500.

NORTHWOOD REALTY SERVICES 201 ASSOCIATES
724-929-1370

LOOKING TO MOVE? REAL ESTATE EVERY SUNDAY, CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

3066/FOR SALE/OTHER

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MONONGAHELA "Business Opportunity" Building, business, equipment, liquor license. Call for more details.

MONESSEN "New Price". 2 bedroom, newer windows, 1st floor laundry, garage, plenty of parking. $24,500.

ELIZABETH Cute raised ranch with newer carpet and lots of updates, close to Rt. 51. $52,000.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-483-3004

CALL FOR DETAILS

BELLE VERNON 3 bedroom vinyl ranch mfg. home with huge basement, 12 blocks high that can be finished. Cherry cabinets throughout, built-in stereo/CD/cassette and much more! Call for details! Asking $109,900.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-929-2180

3540/APTS-RENT/FAYETTE

FAYETTE CITY 2 bedroom, all on one floor, remodeled, no pets, no exceptions. $350. Security, references. Call 8-5pm 724-736-0824.

3555/APTS-RENT/WASHINGTON

*** DONORA ***

1 Bedroom Bungalow
Clean
Nice Neighborhood
-AND-
2 Bedroom Apartment
724-746-3997

CHARLEROI 1 bedroom, newly remodeled, off street parking, all appliances inc. Heat, water, garbage inc. Avail. Feb. 1st. $400. No pets. 724-984-4750.

3555/APTS-RENT/WASHINGTON

CALIFORNIA sublet of Cal U Jefferson apt. until Aug. 2008. Renewable. Must be a Cal U student & meet Cal U criteria. $480, current tenant will pay Jan & Feb. rent. Immediate avail. 724-971-4812.

CHARLEROI 1 bedroom, cute, newly remodeled, all utilities incl. except electric. $450. Call 412-583-6829.

CHARLEROI

1 & 2 bedroom apts. for rent w/intercom, wall to wall carpet, washer/dryer. $325-$400. Security deposit. No pets.
724-292-1189
724-396-1140

CHARLEROI 3 bedroom, laundry hookups, heat, water, sewage inc. $575. 724-518-1677.

DONORA- efficiency apt. $275 month, everything included. Call 724-258-7182 or 724-379-9599.

DONORA 4 rooms, bath. $375 garbage, water, sewage included. Call 724-258-7182 or 724-379-9599.

DONORA APTS.
724-379-5265
1 Bedroom Apartments
HUD Assisted For Those Who Qualify

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3625/HSE-RENT/WMLD.

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CHARLEROI 2 car garage, 400 sq. ft. 2nd St. area. Call 412-916-5671.

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ASTRO ✦ GRAPH

Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16, 2008

Financial conditions look encouraging in the year ahead, but only if you are determined to succeed and willing to do what it takes to generate the returns you want. Nothing will be handed to you on a silver platter.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- You possess excellent management skills in handling situations that require a deft touch, yet for reasons known only to you, you might not have the courage to use them in all cases. Don't let yourself down.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) - Remember it is always difficult to please everyone, so if someone requires more pats on the back, don't take it as a failure on your part. This person simply needs more coddling than others.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Sincerity is essential if you want to make a good impression on others, so forgo using flattery as a tool. But don't use the blunt truth, either. Chances are either extreme will prove to be counterproductive.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Take measures to trim as much nonessential spending from your budget as possible; once you do, you will find your financial position greatly improved, and it will provide the peace of mind you are seeking.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Although you have what it takes to do quite well in competitive situations, you need to remember to do so with grace and humility. You don't want to make enemies out of the losers.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- If you want to obtain the best outcome, limit your proposals and presentations to just the facts. Sugarcoating things makes it appear as if you have something to hide, and emotions could make you look weak.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Forming a commercial involvement with friends is acceptable, but keep in mind that the relationship could suffer if the matter is mismanaged or ends up on shaky ground. It is always a chancy situation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- There are wonderful opportunities for personal gain at this moment, but once you experience success, there could be a tendency to take some kind of foolish risk. Invest your funds and time only in feasible situations.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Operate on your own as much as possible, because objectives that are significant to you can meet with a total indifference by your associates. These cohorts may lack your vision and your sense of adventure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- You may find it necessary to take measures to alter or change those conditions in your life that are retarding your progress. Keep in mind that although it may be difficult, it is doable and the right thing to do.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- For good or for ill, you tend to reflect the behavior patterns of your peers. Instead, if you know that your personality is stronger than your companions, step forward and be the one who determines the mode of operation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Observers will admire your confidence and capabilities in regards to the manner in which you handle tough situations, so there is no need to toot your own horn. They will be singing your praises for you.

Memorial Tributes For...

Valentine's Day

IF YOU WISH TO PAY TRIBUTE....

For your convenience in selecting a suitable memorial, a number of verses have been printed below. One of these may perfectly portray your feelings. However, you may express any sentiment in your own words, or stop in at our Eastgate office and select a verse from our Memorial Book. If you prefer to publish a picture with the verse, please contact the classified department by phone at 724-684-5200 for further information.

Special Valentine's Day Memorial Page To Be Published
Thursday, February 14, 2008

1.
You are not forgotten, loved one,
Nor will you ever be.
As long as life and memory last,
We shall remember thee.
We miss you now, our hearts are sore,
As time goes on we miss you more.
Your loving smile, your gentle face,
No one can fill your vacant place.

2.
They say time heals all sorrows,
And helps us to forget,
But time so far has only proved
How much we miss you yet.
God gave us strength to fight it
And courage to bear the blow,
But what it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.

3.
You have taken your long last journey
In the beautiful ship, called Rest,
Away from this world of sorrow
To the home of Eternal Rest.

4.
Today recalls sad memories
Of our dear one gone to rest
And the ones who think of you today,
Are the ones who love you best.

5.
Within our hearts we'll always keep
A special place for you
And try to do our best to live
As you would want us to.
We loved you so, we miss you,
In our memory you are near
Loved, remembered and longed for,
Always treasured with love sincere.

6.
Your life is a beautiful memory,
Your death is a silent grief,
You sleep in God's beautiful garden,
In the sunshine of perfect peace.

7.
Wonderful memories woven in gold,
This is the picture we tenderly hold.
Deep in our hearts - memory is kept,
To love, cherish and never forget.

8.
Our hearts are heavy,
Our thoughts are all of thee,
How we really miss you, dear,
No one but God can see.
Some say time heals an aching heart,
But, no, it isn't true,
For many long years have passed
And our hearts still ache for you.

9.
Memories are treasures no one can steal,
Death leaves a heartache no one can heal.
Loved dearly in life and living yet,
in the hearts of the ones who will never forget.

10.
No one knows how much we miss you,
No one knows the bitter pain
We have suffered since we lost you,
Life has never been the same.
In our hearts your memory lingers,
Sweetly tender, fond and true,
There is not a day, dear loved one
That we do not think of you.

11.
Tonight the stars are gleaming
Upon a lonely grave,
Where sleeps one without dreaming
The one we loved but could not save.
The rolling streams of life pass on,
But still the vacant chair,
Recalls the smile, the love, the voice,
Of the one who once sat there.

12.
Nothing can ever take away
The love a heart holds dear;
Fond memories linger every day
Remembrance keeps them near.

13.
Gone, dear loved one, gone forever
How we miss your smiling face,
But you left us to remember,
None on earth can take your place.
A happy home we once enjoyed,
How sweet the memory still,
But death has left a loneliness,
The world can never fill.

14.
The depth of sorrow we cannot tell,
Of the loss of one we loved so well,
And while you sleep, a peaceful sleep,
Your memory we shall always keep.

15.
I formed a mental picture
Of the one I loved so dear,
He (She) went to meet his (her) Maker
Without a trace of fear.
Sometime I hope to join him (her),
What a meeting that will be,
When we are again united
Beyond life's sea of dreams.

16.
Our hearts still ache with sadness,
Our eyes shed many tears,
God only knows how much we miss you
At the end of these long years,
And when evening shadows are falling,
And we are sitting all alone,
There comes to us a longing,
If only you could come home.

17.
Peacefully sleeping, resting at last,
His (hers) weary troubles and trials past,
In silence he (she) suffered,
In patience he (she) bore,
'Til God called him (her) home
To suffer no more.

18.
When links of life are broken
And loved ones have to part,
It leaves a wound that never heals
An ever aching heart,
So it does not take a special day,
To bring him (her) to our minds
For days that we do not think of him (her)
Are very hard to find.

19.
Within our store of memories,
He (she) holds a place apart.
For no one else can ever be
More cherished in our hearts.

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A Valentine's Day Tribute
In Loving Memory Of
Helen M. Doe

Our beloved mother & grandmother, who passed away June 1995.
No one knows how much we miss you. No one knows the bitter pain we have suffered since we lost you. Life has never been the same. In our hearts your memory lingers, sweetly tender, fond and true, there is not a day, dear loved one, that we do not think of you.
Sadly missed by your family

THIS SIZE 1X2
$25.00

A Valentine's Day Tribute
In Loving Memory Of
Helen M. Doe
Our beloved mother & grandmother, who passed away June 14, 1995.
No one knows how much we miss you. No one knows the bitter pain we have suffered since we lost you. Life has never been the same. In our hearts your memory lingers, sweetly tender, fond and true, there is not a day, dear loved one, that we do not think of you.
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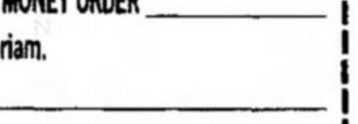

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2060/GOVERNMENT NOTICES

MID MON VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

The Borough of Charleroi is accepting applications for the Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority Appointment for a 5 Year Term. Applications must be in the Borough Secretary's Office by Feb 6, 2008 at 12:00 P.M.

BOROUGH OF CHARLEROI
Elaine T. Martinko
Borough Secretary
1/15,19,24

PUBLIC NOTICE

Persons interested in applying for the position of City Council for the City of Monongahela can submit letters of intent and resumes by January 25, 2008 at the office of the City Clerk, 449 West Main Street, Monongahela, PA 15063.

Carole Foglia,
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1/8,15

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